LH3
M3a

APRIL 5, 2001 [53.29]

Martlet

BUS BUS BUS BUS BUS BUS

photo by Brad Cran

poetry in transit — bank - gas - $50 pt

Bus. Bus. Bus. Bus. Bus. This —
public mantra inside a private cuticle you and
you. you. you. waiting for your stop lost —
in grocery lists & thoughts of a flood-ed revolution
the need to vacuum or macaroni & cheese.
This is how it happens: the grimy city hands drop coins —
like rain. rain. rain. rain. rain. on the window. Coins —
dropped into the silver well of your fucked up day dreams —:
a bowl of blue olives, the stock exchange, heat of possible touching
the fingers of the person behind you wearing fingerless gloves.
For now you have lost the mechanics of the private automobile,
or short-haul engine, the hiss + suck of pistons.
Now the scattered wrappers of conversation and Socratic
debate inside every "I" high on the ahhhhhhhhhh
relief of the ending, finally, home, or the tyranny of body,
the height of a final house. In another world
we ride the freedom bus, each passenger blows —
into a harmonica: silver bird clouds screech.

The transit tablets say: you should not drink coffee, eat your own brain or miss your own particular stop, dear pilgrim.

Do you understand the history of the horse & carriage, double-ass wagon-wheel ruts? Imagine planning for a day — when your knees and head become lumpity-lumpa — leathers and salted mind, snot mud, another happy skin. The trolley. The tram. The bones buried beneath the electronic rail you avoid like the elevator. It's a contest. You win. Inter-loops of private thought: the burning social discourse of seating, looking, staring forward or away — from that breathing body. Blowing trumpets of smartness down the highway scarred by fear and tired rubber. The Haultain 5:37 p.m. humming North through Queen Bitch city with so many teeth broken and/or missing. Away from rabbits, black-strap chalk boards and, of course, the fine mechanics of these words.
Bus. Bus. Bus. Bus. Bus. WWF wrestling & all these independent Marxists gathering post cards for a New World.

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Corporate piggies honour the cash hogs

by Jason Gondziola

Last weekend the liars, cheaters and stealers of the corporate world were given their just desserts. Roughly 350 people converged on the Roxy Theatre to take part in an annual parody of the greed and corruption that dominates the political and corporate world.

> Basically, it's vaudeville.
>
> *Art Farquharson*

The Corporate Golden Piggy Awards were carried out in style, replete with all of the pomp of the larger award shows. Attendees were greeted at the door by the Raging Grannies, who doubled as bouncers.

Running for their fifth consecutive year, the "piggies" serve up a strong dose of scathing satire targeted squarely at the face of the corporate monolith.

"The truth of the matter is the corporations drive the agenda," said Art Farquharson, producer of the event. "The FTAA, the MAI and all these other things are pieces of the big puzzle. So we aim at the corporations, not the politicians."

Notable recipients at this year's award ceremony included the Pharmaceutical Industry (Global Pillage Award), the Royal Dutch Shell Group (Making a Killing Award), and John Roth, CEO of Nortel Networks, who was awarded the Core Porker 8 award for deferring millions of dollars in taxes. As a fine touch of irony, Roth's award was deferred as well.

Farquharson, who is by day a humble BC Ferries employee, collaborates with director Jacquie Ackerly to bring the Piggies to life year after year.

Farquharson and Ackerly are joined by more than 60 volunteers, delivering the audience a bona-fide variety show with skits, comedy and music.

"Basically, it's vaudeville," said Farquharson. Unfortunately, vaudeville legend Al Jolson was unable to attend on account of his death in 1950, but such a barrier certainly did not hamper notable Bolshevik, Vladimir Illich Lenin, from opening the festivities. Lenin, played by Kevin Neish, started the show with a critique of CBC Television's "Canada: A People's History," noting that once again, mainstream media has failed to convey the whole story.

In the five years since it's inception, the Piggies haven't received much media coverage, a fact that doesn't surprise Farquharson.

photo by Jason Gondziola

Anti-corporate hams: Victoria's finest take the stage to name the year's biggest profit hogs.

"We know the corporations run the major media," he said, adding that the mainstream media wouldn't cover an event like this, despite the sizeable turnout. "There is an unspoken censorship."

Farquharson isn't phased, however, and is making plans to expand the reach of the Piggies. "We're going to form a Piggy Awards Society," he said. "We're even trying to put together a manual about how to put them on in your own city."

The satire of the Piggies may be frowned on by mainstream media, but Farquharson said it's a productive way to incite social change.

"Satire is the weapon of the powerless against the powerful," he said, quoting political columnist Molly Ivins. "We attack them with satire. What else can you do?"

And so the Piggies will go on, throwing pie into the faces of the corporate monsters always carrying with them the spirit of hope.

"I would dearly love a revolutionary change in society," said Farquharson. "It may not happen next week, but we'll tune people up."

Who has the right priorities?

Ujjal Dosanjh

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Stronger environmental protection

Yes to minimum wage increases

Gordon Campbell

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Divided party on abortion rights

Weaker environmental protection

No to minimum wage increases

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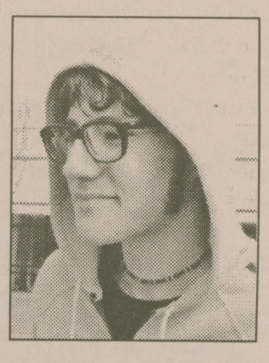
on the spot

by Jason Gondziola + Richard Warrington

Do you fucking care?



Tim Kelley
2nd year philosophy

More than most. I love life most when I hate it.

Yarissa Hermen
2nd year sciences

No. Very appropriate for how I'm feeling right now. I think it's an everything kind of feeling.

Ruari Carthew
3rd year biology/environmental studies

Yeah I care. I think it's more important to care than just to sit back on the sidelines.

Kevin Lewis
3rd year business

About the important things I do. Some things aren't worth wasting my time. That is all.

Bus strike could be a long ride

by Michael Cox

With exams only a week away, the transit strike leaves UVic bus riders clambering for a lift to campus.

The strike started Sunday morning, and unless the Canadian Auto Workers local 333 and transit officials can come to an agreement, the strike could be a long one.

> We're asking our employer to go back to the table and counter our offer. The ball is in their court.
>
> *Sal Ruffolo*

When transit workers went on strike in March 1999, it lasted eight days. At that time, the strike threatened the success of the U-Pass, but Jaime Matten, UVSS director of services, said the rideshare boards saved the day.

"The problem is rideshare boards are great when you're on a fixed schedule, but with exams schedules become erratic," she added.

If students can't get to campus to look at the rideshare boards, UVic offers an online car pool board at www.carpool.ca where students can try to arrange rides.

"It's similar to our boards, but it's on-line and more convenient," she said.

If the strike continues, Matten said the UVSS will look into setting up a pick-up and drop-off system. Picking up students at central locations and running shuttles during exams could help alleviate some of the pressure, but students would have to be fairly flexible with their schedules.

"Our hope is that the strike isn't going to last long," she said. "Our push is for BC Transit to come back to the table and negotiate a fair deal for the workers."

Ron Drolet, vice president of Planning and Marketing for BC Transit, said there are still stumbling blocks to overcome.

Transit workers' previous contract saw a 0-0-.85 per cent increase over three years, Drolet said. The .85 per cent increase was for wages only, and was off-set by "repackaged benefit plans," which meant a total increase of two per cent.

The current offer to CAW local 333 is a 2.5 per cent increase at the beginning of each year, as well as a $750 signing bonus, Drolet said. While that offer was rejected by the union, Drolet said it is "our bottom line."

But CAW local 333 president Sal Ruffolo said that shouldn't be the bottom line.

"I don't know why [Drolet] is saying that's the bottom line," he said. "We're not that far apart at all."

Wages are only one element of the contract in dispute, Rufollo said. According to a letter of understanding from BC Transit, the contracting out of services isn't allowed. But the clause in the agreement, Rufollo said, makes provisions for it. "Their position is they can contract out as long as there's no layoffs," Rufollo said. "Which language are we supposed to believe?. Currently no work is contracted out, but Rufollo said union members are concerned.

"Our jobs are protected, true, but our work is not," he said. "We're not being greedy. We want to protect employment for current members and future employees."

Rufollo said union negotiators are anxious to get back to the table.

"We're asking our employer to go back to the table and counter our offer," he said. "The ball is in their court."

Funding for transit comes from three main sources, including fare boxes, the province and the Victoria Regional Transit Commission.

While students have U-Passes sitting unused in their wallets, Drolet said some type of reimbursement could be worked out. During the last strike, students were given a rebate at the SUB Info booth, but the U-Pass poses a significantly more challenging system.

"We will refund or credit students somehow when the strike is over," Drolet said. "How exactly that will work we don't know."

Matten said, if the strike lasts a long time, a reimbursement program could be looked into, but it would be difficult to work out the logistics.

"If the strike lasts we'll have to look into something like that because students are paying into a program they can't use," she said.

photo by Richard Warrington

Waiting for a ride? Join the queue of students trying to find alternative transportation.

Administration denies co-op cuts

by Kevin Groves

A prankster with a lot of time to kill sent a fax to *the Martlet* last week claiming huge cuts to the university's co-op programs. Although some uncertainty about placements is expected in the next few months, administrators say the information is false.

The anonymous letter said that the University of Victoria is preparing for cuts to co-op anticipated by a Gordon Campbell Liberal government. The cuts would supposedly involve a $600,000 slash of the operating budget, and the amalgamation of major co-ops like the Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology and Chemistry into one amorphous "Science co-op."

"The letter is absolutely untrue," says Elizabeth Grove-White, current director of the professional writing co-op program. "No reorganization or cuts are planned for the foreseeable future."

In fact, Grove-White says that the UVic co-op program is humming along smoothly. UVic hosts the third largest co-op program in Canada, with forty departments involved, and one in four full time UVic students enrolled in a program. In the 1999/2000 academic year, UVic co-op students earned anywhere from $2000 to $4700 per month on co-op work terms.

At least one student is generally pleased with his co-op experience. Former UVic student Spencer Maybee, 24, has few negative things to say about the program.

Thanks to contacts developed through the Arts and Writing co-op, Maybee works for Turnstone Press, a small publishing house in Winnipeg. "Ultimately, getting jobs is all about relationships. The co-op program offers you training in how to get jobs such as resume writing, cover letters and interviewing skills. The people in the office are super helpful, and they always follow up on everything."

Nevertheless, Maybee feels that there is always room for improvement, particularly when it comes to jobs outside of B.C. Only 16 per cent of students in the program are placed outside the province, which pales in comparison to the 43 per cent placement rate in the Greater Victoria area.

"Co-op can only do so much [for UVic students]. I wish that the program would offer more nation-wide positions, and create a package that can be sent out to possible employers to show them what is in it for them to hire a co-op student."

But Grove-White thinks the UVic co-op does a good job placing students outside B.C. She points to Linamar Corporation, a global manufacturer of components for the automobile industry located in Guelph, Ont., which says UVic is their favourite post secondary school to recruit from because they post everything electronically.

Whether cuts are planned or not, some placement difficulties might be on the horizon thanks to the financial troubles of Nortel Networks Corporation. The Ontario-based manufacturer of networking equipment has about 23,000 employees in Canada and more than 94,000 worldwide. Last February, the company cut 10,000 jobs and announced this month that another 5,000 are on the line.

In the past, Nortel has been a major employer of Canadian students who graduate with engineering and business degrees, and the company has been known to conduct huge recruiting drives on many Canadian university campuses. Nortel took 46 UVic engineering co-op students in the last three terms, mainly for their Ottawa offices, and hired about 3900 co-op students nationally.

Grove-White says the Nortel situation will have some affect on co-op placements this summer.

"It would be unrealistic to assume that we will not be affected. I would think that by the end of April we'll start to feel a change in the co-op placement pattern due to this issue."

Barry Brooks, co-ordinator of UVic's Engineering co-op, says he agrees that it's too early to tell what the job cuts will mean to UVic students.

"It would be logical to assume that Nortel job cuts could mean fewer co-op positions across the country, but because these are postings accessible to competition from many co-op programs it's hard to say what the impact will be."

Brooks said it's not so much the Nortel problems that worry him in the long term but the massive increases in engineering and computer science funding in Ontario and Alberta – UVic's two main out of province markets.

"However," he says, "when I say that we are concerned, I mean that we are aware of the challenge and we are focusing our energies to broaden our base of operation and remain competitive both inside and outside B.C."

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On the road to Quebec City

50,000 expected to protest signing of FTAA

by Ben Isitt

They're calling it the mobilization for global justice or 'Mob-Glob' for short. Two weeks from now, 50,000 citizens are expected to converge on Quebec City to protest the Summit of Americas, where 34 heads of state are expected to create a new Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

In response, a 4.5-kilometre wall is being built around the city and 6,000 police officers, including 50 Mounties from Vancouver Island, are being deployed to contain the protests.

Fundraising efforts have been underway since February, but protesting in Quebec City doesn't come cheap with plane tickets at $500 on average.

Organizing is being headed up by the local Mobilization for Global Justice coalition, which got off the ground last December and sponsored a teach-in at UVic last month.

"They're expecting 30,000 people from labour [unions] alone," Van Deusen said. The Canadian Federation of Students and the McGill and Concordia student unions have chartered a fleet of buses to shuttle people from Montreal to Quebec City on the days the Summit is expected to meet. And the Canadian Action Party will be running buses from Toronto at $20 a head.

> Isn't it a conflict of interest when you have corporations setting the rules for their own trade?
>
> *Brendan Van Deusen*

"I think that the FTAA and the whole free trade structure that we've set up – things like the WTO, and GATT and NAFTA – is completely corrupt," said Brendan Van Deusen, a third-year theatre student who will make the trip from UVic to Quebec City.

"It's not even free trade, it's managed, and regardless of whatever rhetoric they put out, it is all done in secret between the government and corporations but excluding the citizens that it's going to affect."

Eighty-four people were arrested in Ottawa April 2 during a protest outside Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, demanding the release of the FTAA draft documents. Government officials refused, and protesters scaled a security cordon and approached a line of police guarding the building. They ended up in jail and the trade documents remain a secret.

"It's putting corporations' right to profit ahead of basic human necessities, like water, education, healthcare and medicine," Van Deusen said.

He will make the trip to Quebec City with roughly 50 other Victorians. They will travel by plane, car and train, and sleep in church basements, community centres "or in the park if necessary."

In an effort to forge links with the burgeoning social movement, the entire federal caucus of the New Democratic Party has committed to marching in Quebec City. NDP member of parliament Svend Robinson and party leader Alexa McDonough booked committee rooms in the House of Commons where 250 people converged for a People's Parliament and civil disobedience training in preparation for the protests.

American activist George Lakey, who ran a workshop on peaceful protest, was detained by Immigration Canada officials upon his arrival in Ottawa and his documents were searched and photocopied.

On April 4, after *the Martlet's* press deadline, UVic's Senate considered a motion from the student society to make "alternative examination arrangements" for students who intend to travel to Quebec for the protest. A second motion called for the university to oppose the inclusion of education services in the FTAA, and communicate this opposition "to members of the university community, municipal, provincial and federal governments."

Van Deusen, a student senator who has served as a director of the UVSS for the past year, stresses he isn't opposed to the concept of trade, but thinks the FTAA needs to be abolished rather than allow token groups to "sit at the table."

"We don't want to have corporations defining what constitutes human rights, rights to education, rights to food. We need to set up a system of fair trade, not corporate-managed trade. Is profit the bottom line, or is valuing the people and valuing the resources that we all depend on the bottom line?"

Finance Ministers from 34 countries in the Americas (Cuba is the sole anomaly) met in Toronto the first week in April for negotiations in preparation of the Summit. And in Quebec City, the no-protest "safety perimeter" under construction.

"For me, the whole idea of the wall, of the police protecting the rights of corporations over people, is bullshit. I would like to tear down the wall, but I have no plans to do it," Van Deusen said. "I'm all into the idea of reclaiming the streets and reclaiming the voice that we've lost in these negotiations. It seems like this is the only way that people are able to be heard effectively."

But don't the 34 heads of state have a right to meet?

"I think everyone has a right to meet, but do governments and corporations have a right to sell the well-being of people to the highest bidder? They want to meet, we want to meet, but once they sign these trade agreements they take all the decision-making power away from all the people that these decisions affect," Van Deusen argues.

Van Deusen said he would like to have as little contact with the 6000 police officers as possible, but has no faith they will act civilly.

"If [police officers] really wanted to do a civil service," Van Deusen said, "they would go in and break up the trade negotiations and arrest people based on corruption. Isn't it a conflict of interest when you have corporations setting the rules for their own trade?"

Global protest goes local

by Ben Isitt

While some residents are making the pilgrimage to Quebec City, Victoria will be the site of its own protest April 21.

"It's a local rallying cry against the FTAA, and at the same time its a celebration against exploitation and oppression," said Shane Calder, a UVic social work student who is helping to organize the festive Walk for Global Justice.

Started as the Peace March 20 years ago, the event gradually morphed into the Earth Walk. This spring organizers approached the Mobilization for Global Justice.

"We're sort of taking an event that was pretty tame and giving it some teeth," Calder said.

But the traditional tactics of the Earth Walk will be retained.

"It's going to be an event that is focused around education and getting people together to talk about it and express themselves," said Kim Toombs, a local youth worker who is also on the organizing committee.

Calder said some environmental groups are a bit uneasy with the shift towards social justice, but added that between 15 and 20 unions have endorsed the march.

"The Canadian Auto Workers have been doing a lot of work around the FTAA. They've been doing a lot of their own organizing internally."

The April 21 walk will begin with a demonstration at Centennial Square before marching to the Parliament Buildings for speeches, music and an open house of roughly 50 community groups.

Speakers include native sovereigntist Splitting the Sky, who participated in the 1995 standoff at Gustavson Lake, and Colin Graham, secretary-treasurer of the Victoria Labour Council. The event will be hosted by local folk troubadour and labour activist Art Farquharson.

The line-up of bands includes Sheleilagh, Jeremy Walsh and Sanyata.

Local social justice and environmental groups will set up tables on the legislature lawn, including a new Action Tent.

Toombs said workshops on direct action, street medical training, guerrilla media and radical cheerleading will be offered "to give people a taste of some of what might be happening in Quebec."

Calder said Victorians should be very concerned about the local implications of the FTAA.

"If people think that what's happening with the FTAA is only in Quebec City or Mexico, they're wrong. People are going to start seeing the local consequences of apathy," he said.

Posters are available in the UVSS resource centre in the SUB, at the VIDEA office on the second floor of the Fernwood Community Association (1923 Fernwood), and at the Western Canada Wilderness Committee office at 651 Johnson Street.

On April 17, a volunteer meeting will take place at 2017 Belmont Avenue. The next meeting of the central organizing committee for the Mobilization for Global Justice is slated for Thursday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the FCA.

"If you're going to have resistance against anything, it has to be in people's backyard," Calder said. "People have to be able to change their local mindset and see that change is possible toward a freer and better life."

For more information on the Walk for Global Justice call 920-7261.

Germanic and Slavonic studies merge

by Kevin Groves

The figurative wall between the Germanic and Slavonic studies departments is scheduled for demolition this July.

The Faculty of Humanities has approved a motion to amalgamate both departments into one Department of Germanic and Russian Studies with two divisions.

Andrew Rippin, Dean of Humanities, said the merger has been discussed by the faculty for 20 years. Other Canadian universities, such as the University of Waterloo, operate similar departments.

Rippin does not feel the merger is an unusual move and hopes each division will provide academic support to the other.

"The Slavonics department at present is quite small, and it's difficult for the unit to survive with only two people. We're hoping that the merge will give them the support they need."

According to a proposal put forward by the Faculty of Humanities to the Senate and Board of Governors last February, the merge will not affect staff jobs nor course offerings in either of the departments.

The few changes are relatively minor, said Rippin, and don't reflect budgetary concerns.

This is welcome news for students involved in the course unions of each department. Anne Zerrath, a Humanities student involved in the decision-making process said that there were "some concerns" among students about the merge, but for the most part they have been satisfied.

"We were concerned about possible reductions in each department, and wanted to make sure that each physical location was maintained and reading rooms would remain untouched," she said. "From what we understand there will be no reductions, but we want to make sure that we maintain a voice in the decision making process."

Zerrath also said that a final physical amalgamation will eventually take place in five years, when a new building should be built to allow the math department to move out of the Clearihue building. In the meantime, Zerrath said that there has been talk of how the new department will interact academically.

"We're in favour of comparative courses for instance, but we're trying to be realistic. The merge is an ongoing process for the faculty and students of each department."

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US dumps Kyoto, protesters denounce Canada

by Pierre-Olivier Savoie

MONTREAL (CUP) – South and Central American environmental ministers emerged from a two-day conference in Montreal critical of the US government's decision to abandon an international climate change agreement.

But 200 protesters outside the meeting at the Omni Hotel criticized Canada for not taking a stand on US President George Bush's decision to pull the country out of the Kyoto Protocol, which was negotiated at an international level to help reduce the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

In a two-hour, carnival-like demonstration outside the meeting Thursday, protesters denounced neo-liberal free trade and North and South American governments' disregard for the environment. The demonstrators also criticized Canada for not clearly articulating their position on climate change, a subject that was hotly debated during the conference.

On Wednesday, US president George W. Bush said he would not respect the Kyoto Protocol because it was not in his country's "best economic interest," jeopardizing an agreement that had been signed in 1997 by 38 developed countries.

"We have a conference of silent environment ministers on the other side of the street who won't account for the fact that George W. Bush declared war on Earth yesterday," said Maude Barlow, chair of the Council of Canadians, during the protest.

By the end of the conference, the environment ministers of all 34 countries in attendance, except Canada, had strongly come out against the US position.

Barlow said she was telling her colleagues in South and Central America that the Americans' decision to pull out of the climate change agreement is just one more reason why governments shouldn't sign a free trade agreement with the world's most powerful country.

She said the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), an agreement which is on the agenda when representatives from the same 34 governments meet in Quebec City for the Summit of the Americas later this month, is not like the MERCOSUR trade agreement.

That trade agreement between South American countries protects public resources, like hydro electricity, water and wood from corporate privatization, unlike the FTAA, Barlow said.

Nathalie Dubé, a spokesperson for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, pointed out that a Costa Rican official has said that people from the US and Canada should not tell people in southern countries what to do, because they can decide for themselves.

But Barlow shrugs at the accusation that she is reproducing patterns of colonialism. She said the criticism is unwarranted because the Council of Canadians and other North American citizens' groups have good working relationships with landless peasants and social rights activists in Latin America.

"The elite in the Third World negotiate on behalf of their class. They have more to do with their [political] counterparts in the First World than with their citizens," Barlow said.

Dave Bennet, Canadian Labour Congress environment and health director, said integrating the Americas might not be a bad idea, but social concerns have to be included, along with a common parliament.

A common market, like the European Union (EU), would be a better solution than unfettered free trade, he said. The EU has a regional policy to assist poorer countries, like Spain, Portugal or Ireland. It also has standards that all member countries have to meet with respect to labour, social welfare, education and services.

He said it is a completely different approach than the North American Free Trade Agreement or the World Trade Organization, which limit the powers of government.

"The EU has measures to protect social ecology and the environment amongst others," said Bennett.

National news briefs

Environment or education?

Newfoundland students are upset about being asked to choose between the environment or their education after Premier Roger Grimes voiced his support for a plan to offer free post-secondary education through bulk water exports.

The premier said he would be in favour of the plan "if it was in the best interests of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians."

Allison North, spokesperson for the local chapter of the Canadian Federation of Students, called the idea "ridiculous." She said Grimes should take real initiative by "going after the federal government" for increased funding.

Exporting water from Gisborne Lake would net around $70 million per year and Grimes said he doesn't expect it to negatively affect the fresh water supply.

Tuition on the rise... again

University of New Brunswick students will likely see a tuition hike of six per cent next year, bringing the annual price of education to $3,635.

The increase is because the provincial government's recent funding increase won't be enough to bring per student funding up to par with other Canadian universities, according to UNB's vice-president of finance and administration Daniel Murray.

Funding for UNB is currently 10 per cent below average, he said.

UNB student union president Charles Goguen said either the government has to dedicate more funds or the university has to cut expenditures somewhere if tuition is to stop rising.

Meanwhile, students at Newfoundland's Memorial University received a 10 per cent tuition rebate after the provincial government announced its budget.

Environmental efforts not good enough

Alberta students are criticizing their provincial government's recent green space protection legislation, saying it didn't go far enough.

The University of Alberta's association of environment and conservation sciences has been handing out postcards addressed to Ralph Klein for several weeks to bring attention to the insufficient protection the government is proposing for the Alberta foothills.

The Special Places 2000 initiative only protected 1.5 per cent of the Alberta foothills region and any pre-existing development projects such as mining and logging were allowed to continue.

In addition to pointing out the lack of protection for the region, activists are asking people to be more aware of products harvested from endangered areas.

Report condemns government action on human rights

Aboriginal people "the most disadvantaged people in the country"

by Darren Stewart

OTTAWA (CUP) – Canada fails to ensure a full measure of social and economic rights for all its citizens, according to the annual report by the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

The report, which was tabled in the House of Commons last Thursday, calls for Parliament to update legislation and direct more resources towards employment equity and dealing with human rights complaints.

"More or less subtle, but no less damaging forms of racial discrimination are actively in play in Canadian society, even today," said Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, Canada's chief human rights commissioner.

The commission reports each year on its own progress and the state of human rights in Canada. Its goal is to further knowledge of human rights, promote employment equity, and provide effective means for resolving complaints. Falardeau-Ramsay said the commission found its resources stretched over the past year. It needs more legislative tools and resources to improve its effectiveness as a public service.

These changes are long overdue, she said, especially when it comes to making the complaint system quicker, more accessible and better known to Canadians.

The commission's report is also very critical of Canada's treatment of aboriginals, calling them the "most disadvantaged people in the country." The report called for the government to heed the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples and update the Indian Act, which it called "archaic and out of step."

"The act treats [aboriginal] people as if they were children," she said. "It's an act that dates back to 1874 and it's obviously been amended but never been entirely reviewed. For years and years we've called for the act to be repealed. Why treat a large and important part of our population as if they were children or second-class citizens?"

Mary-Jane Jim, Assembly of First Nations vice-chief, had not had a chance to read the report. But she said she agreed that aboriginals were very under-represented in the Canadian work force.

"There's definitely racial discrimination in Canadian hiring practices," she said. "And I don't know what the numbers are in the public service, but aboriginal people are certainly not visible in some departments."

The federal government needed to include more aboriginal voices when it reviews human rights legislation, she said.

The report also said that the presence of visible minorities in public service jobs is still limited.

Visible minorities are hired at rates that are lower than their availability in the Canadian work force and are most notably underrepresented in managerial jobs, said Falardeau-Ramsay.

"Positive efforts are needed to address the negative attitudes that have created these barriers," she said.

Falardeau-Ramsay said it is particularly timely to give these issues a "long and hard look" at home because Canada plans to attend the United Nations World Conference Against Racism later this year.

"There's no question that the conference will put the spotlight on how countries like Canada deal with racism and diversity issues."

UVic PRIDE S.A.G.M.

UVIC Pride's Semi-Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 19 at 4:00pm. Everyone is welcome and all students interested in the future of UVIC Pride are encouraged to attend. The elections for the following positions will be taking place: **UVic Pride Representative on the UVSS Board, Office Coordinator and Financial Coordinator**. Nominations as well as agenda items should be received by the Pride Office no later than April 12. The meeting will be taking place in the SUB, room B110a. We hope to see you all there. Questions, comments and nominations may be received at SUB b118, 472-4393 or pride@uvic.ca

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EDITORIAL:

The right to strike

It sucks that the buses aren't running.

As much as we'd love to skip class and boycott campus, looming papers and exams make that impossible for most students. The library beckons and the computer labs call, and one way or another we need to make the long pilgrimage to the Ivory Tower on top of the hill.

But suddenly the transit drivers and support staff have knocked us down to size. In some way it's appropriate. The U-Pass was just getting too damn convenient. Leave class, flash the card, no money changes hands. Like clockwork. It was so cushy that many of us took the drivers for granted. Until one day we found ourselves sitting at the stop and the bus didn't come.

How dare they! Back to work! Declare transit an essential service!

We've all thought it and some of us have voiced these opinions vocally. But no matter how inconvenient the transit strike may be, we should be careful not to allow our frustration to feed the forces of reaction.

There are political leaders in this province who are all too eager to take away the right to strike from public sector workers. Gordon Campbell has said he will make education an essential service. The same threat is voiced whenever BC Ferry workers talk strike.

On one level these arguments resonate. Strikes in key sectors cause widespread inconvenience for large numbers of people. The 47 per cent of UVic students who rely on the bus know what this means first hand. Parents who had to arrange childcare for their kids when school support staff went on strike last spring know what this means. Sick people in B.C. will know what this means if nurses decide to go on strike.

And UVic students know what this means from those few days last winter when CUPE went on strike.

But the right to strike is an essential right in a democracy. It remains the only mechanism that guarantees to workers the right to negotiate fair conditions of work at adequate compensation. The alternative is the strike-free minimum-wage zones at Walmart and McDonalds.

Canada has a long history of strikes. At the end of the First World War, the government banned them, triggering events that would see Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria paralyzed by general strikes.

We're along way from those heady days of the spring of 1919, but as *the Martlet* goes to press, transit workers in Victoria are joined by workers in Vancouver and Calgary. In the first week of April, 500 Petro-Canada employees shut down three oil refineries near Edmonton and school support staff walked out in Toronto. And on the other side of Canada, 18,000 public sector workers are walking the picket lines in Newfoundland.

Working people in Canada seem to be awakening from a deep slumber, and with mega-corporations and governments signing free-trade deals left, right and centre, who could blame them for getting nervous?

Strikes are not something to be taken lightly. The transit workers in Victoria had to weigh the impact of lost wages on their families and they no doubt considered the negative reaction from students and the community.

But they made the tough decision to take a stand in contract negotiations. They decided not to come to work until their employer offered them a deal they believed was fair. And they have the right to make that decision.

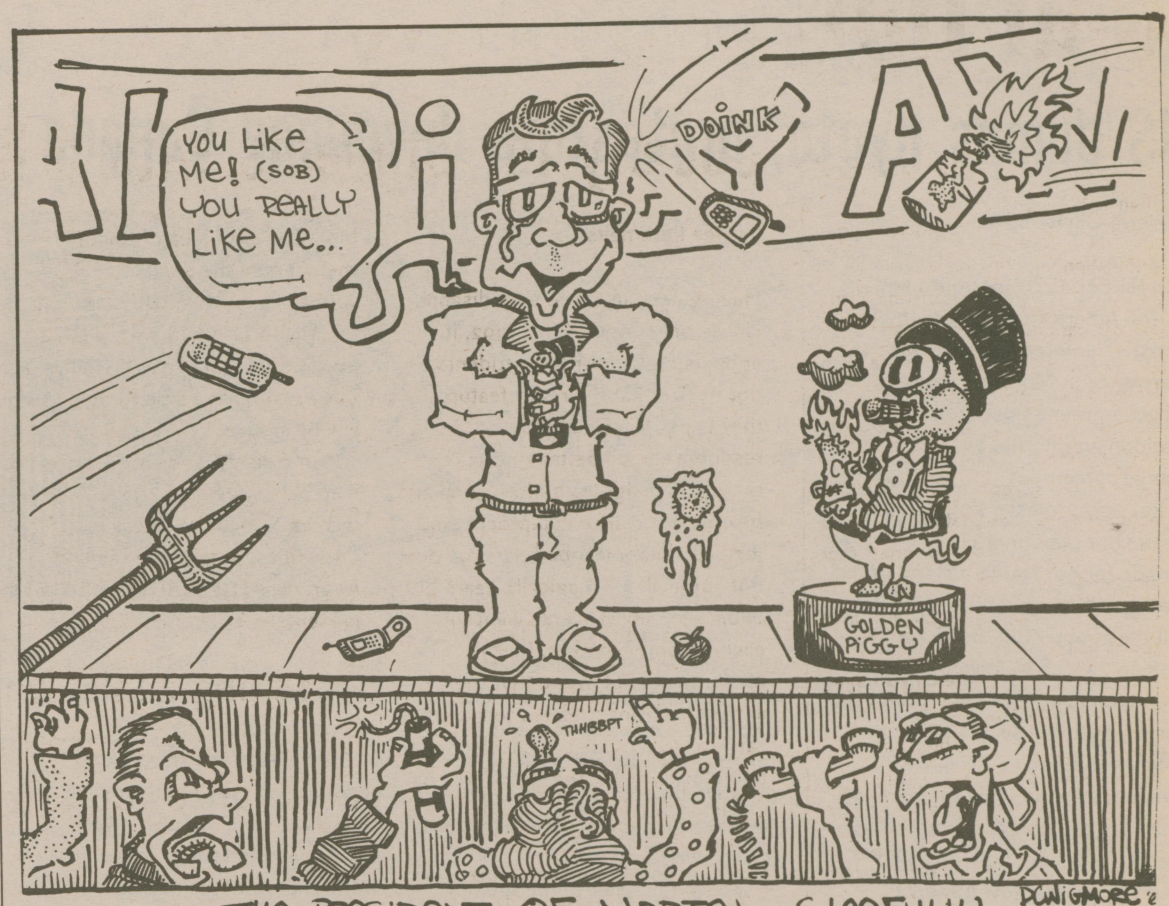
If anything, this strike should make us appreciate the hard work drivers do, and the huge impact they quietly play in the daily lives of tens of thousands of students and citizens. And if they deem it necessary to take a few days off work to secure fair terms of employment for the next three years, we need to accept it.

The last transit strike in the spring of 1999 lasted eight days. Until last Sunday, there were over 700 days of continuous transit service in Victoria.

Rather than follow the lead of the *Times Colonist* and those clamouring for low wages and no unions, we should respect the decision of the transit workers and defend their right to strike.

The sooner BC Transit understands that the community and the university support the drivers, the sooner a contract will be settled and the buses will be back on the road.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at noon in SUB B011. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff.



THE PRESIDENT OF NORTEL GLEEFULLY ACCEPTS HIS AWARD

Anti-Semitism is still racism, and still rampant

by Ilan Zvi Baron

The second-to-last week in March was anti-racism week, established to confront discrimination based on ethnic prejudices. However, it is odd that while we confront racism aimed at visible minorities, anti-Semitism no longer seems relevant. For some reason there was no attempt during anti-racism week to raise awareness about anti-Semitism. Confronting anti-Semitism has lost its trendiness and appeal as Israeli politics shows Jews being the ones with large guns and as the media continues to misrepresent the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in ways that are not favourable to anyone. However, anti-Semitism does exist, and it exists on campus.

It is difficult to confront issues about racism as a Jew because most Jews are white, and whiteness is often associated with the political colour of privilege. However, at any time and place it is possible to encounter anti-Semitism. Irrelevant of the form that this example of racism takes, anti-Semitism needs to be addressed, and it needs to be confronted.

Two recent examples illustrate my point. First, a few months ago, someone placed posters on campus stating, "Israel's Army, today's Nazis." Second, and more recently, someone wrote on a UVSS board: "Jewish question=final solution." Whether these statements are jokes in poor taste, or blatant attacks on Jewish people, there was no official response to these attacks. Had the

> We have made the war against racism a war of faces, instead of a war against exclusionary power relationships.

statements been aimed at Natives, or some other unfortunately persecuted group, there would have been immediate reaction and response. Yet, using Nazi semiotics and Holocaust metaphors does not appear on the anti-racist radar.

Just because Jews have experienced persecution as a people for over two thousand years does not mean that we have grown accustomed to it. If anything, the continued existence of anti-Semitism directs our attention to the lasting power of hate. People who do not include anti-Semitism as a living form of persecution equal to all other forms of ethnic discrimination are sending a message that says that anti-Semitism is passé, and that it no longer exists in any meaningful way.

We have made the war against racism a war of faces, instead of war against exclusionary power relationships. Fighting racism should not be about who but why. There are so many peoples who experience prejudice, persecution and discrimination that it would be impossible to try and address all the issues. Particular issues should be addressed when they surface, but any approach that discriminates – consciously or unconsciously – amongst racist experiences, and approaches racism selectively is seriously flawed. Racism has to be dealt with when it surfaces, but it should always be done in a way that confronts the issue of ethnic discrimination, specifically as ethnic discrimination.

LETTERS:

UVSS' dealing-with-the-strike tactics

During the transit strike we understand that it will be harder for you to get to school, and we are providing the following services to facilitate your travel. For those of you driving to campus, please remember that there are a limited number of parking spots and that many students need rides, so please fill your car before driving up here – it really will make it easier to find a spot!

We have temporary boards in the SUB with forms for posting rides offered and needed (permanent rideshare boards are located in the SUB elevator alcove).

We have a website rideshare program for those of you who can't get to the SUB (www.carpool.ca).

We've set up the bus loop as a last minute pick up area for rides home from UVic.

We're also strongly encouraging BC Transit and workers to come to a fair settlement SOON, so bus service will be back.

Penny Codding, UVic V.P. Academic and Provost has sent a memo to all your professors instructing them exercise discretion in extending deadlines for the submission of assignments and to accommodate students who are unable to attend class during the strike so please contact your instructors to discuss transportation problems if you can't make it here.

Jaime Matten, Director of Services
UVic Students' Society

Co-operative confusion sorted out

As the facilitator and organiser of the student co-operative housing forum, I accept responsibility for the confused coverage of the event in the last *Martlet*. We attempted to present two co-op housing projects. Solid Roofs and Autonomous Roots is a Fernwood-based co-op pursuing a program of social justice, not exclusive to students. The UVic Co-operators' initiative, supported by some UVSS representatives, is student-oriented. Students need their own co-ops for the following reasons: Students' lives could best be coordinated and enriched by living (cooking, eating, cleaning) together. Since members only stay for three to five years, the health of the co-op depends upon them being actively included in its running (their education) by more experienced members; the amount of participation might be different in a non-exclusive co-op. The co-op's viability could be improved by advice

[2000/2001]
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Letters: *the martlet* has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be 200 words maximum. **Deadline** for letters is noon on the Friday before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

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STUDENT VOICE:

Society for Students with a Disability opens its doors to all

by Dee Remmelts

Having been involved with disability issues on campus since 1992, it appears now that many students do not realize that the many features they enjoy, like electric doors, a resource center, better curb cuts, ramps, high-lighted stairs, visual and hearing assistance equipment, and increased handicapped parking, did not come about magically. Years of effort by many students went into each accomplishment. Many students are not aware that the accommodations related to exams came about because of involvement in the activities of the Task Force on Students Services in 1994, which led ultimately to the creation of the Advisory Committee on Issues Affecting Students with a Disability. When parking fees were increased in order to encourage students to take the bus, the group lobbied for a discount to be given to those students with disabilities, who had no choice but to use their vehicle in order to get to campus. These are but a few examples of what the members of the Society for Students with a Disability (SSD) have worked for. There is an outline of all that has been done available at the office. Feel free to come by and pick one up. You will be amazed!

The Society's mandate at present is to be a support group with increased focus on invisible disabilities, organize Disability Awareness Day (DAD) and the yearly presentation of the Hummingbird Award. DAD has proven to be a major instrument in initiating the positive changes happening on campus. The Hummingbird Award is a very special award mainly to acknowledge a person for exceptional assistance to a student or a group of students such as the SSD. Whereas the focus, sadly, often needs to be on the negative in order to make change, it is also very important to acknowledge those people on campus who have been outstanding in their support. And there are many!

We are at a time when the SSD needs new members. However, being 'temporarily' able-bodied does not exclude one from membership. Because of the nature of people with disabilities, i.e. the physical and invisible difficulties, which at times very much challenge their ability to finish assignments and exams, participation by those without disabilities is very much welcomed. No one expects a member to move mountains on his or her own. When there are enough members who can commit even an hour a week, or less, this can add up to enough time and energy to reach another goal. Reaching goals, whether they are small or large, is enormously satisfying and an experience you take with you for the rest of your life. For more information contact the office at 472-4389 or ssduvss@uvic.ca. You can also send me your comments: deerem@uvic.ca

Reaching goals, whether they are small or large, is enormously satisfying and an experience you take with you for the rest of your life.

Finally, I ask you to carry on with the progress. I realize that your classes keep you busy but it is in your own interest that the university not back-slide on accommodation and mainstreaming of all students. Whatever it is you study, be it Sociology, Psychology, Law, School of Social Work or Engineering, your efforts will not go unrewarded. To be involved in the building of a future for yourself, and others, is a learning experience of even greater importance than all the books you read and the classes you attend. Believe me! I know!

LETTERS CONTINUED:

and support from the University and the UVSS: this is contingent upon a student orientation. The plan is to lease a building and to run it co-operatively for one to two years to gain managerial experience, and then to seek financing for the purchase of a house (this doesn't depend upon UVic giving us 50 grand). Info: Co-operators: www.uvss.uvic.ca/coops; Roofs and Roots: 370-7797.

Ryan George , Chair
UVic Co-operators

Unfair stereotypes in head lice article

Regarding the article [*Martlet*, March 29] on lice in the SUB. First of all, this 'problem' did not have anything to do with Felicita's (the pub). We work in food services in the SUB and are extremely offended by your article. You talk about unfair stereotyping but your article does just that. Just because two people get lice (and get rid of it) does not mean that the whole staff is unsanitary (even though lice can be caught by sitting on a couch).

The rule is to wear either a hat or hair net and this is strictly enforced. There is never a worker without a hat or hair net and those with long hair tie it back as well.

Regarding the hand washing, we personally wash our hands every time when switching from money to food, and meat to vegetarian. If you do see a problem, talk to that individual and don't assume that no one ever washes their hands. One of our coworkers has very bad eczema on her hands and yet she washes them constantly which increases the dryness and is quite painful for her.

So what we're trying to say is that the majority of food service workers in the SUB work very hard at their jobs and if you see a problem with a person's lack of cleanliness, talk to them or our managers instead of stereotyping everyone.

Melissa Balaam and Elida Nimani

Saving Wildwood

What do Merve Wilkinson and Anne Mortifee have in common? They both have a special interest in saving Wildwood.

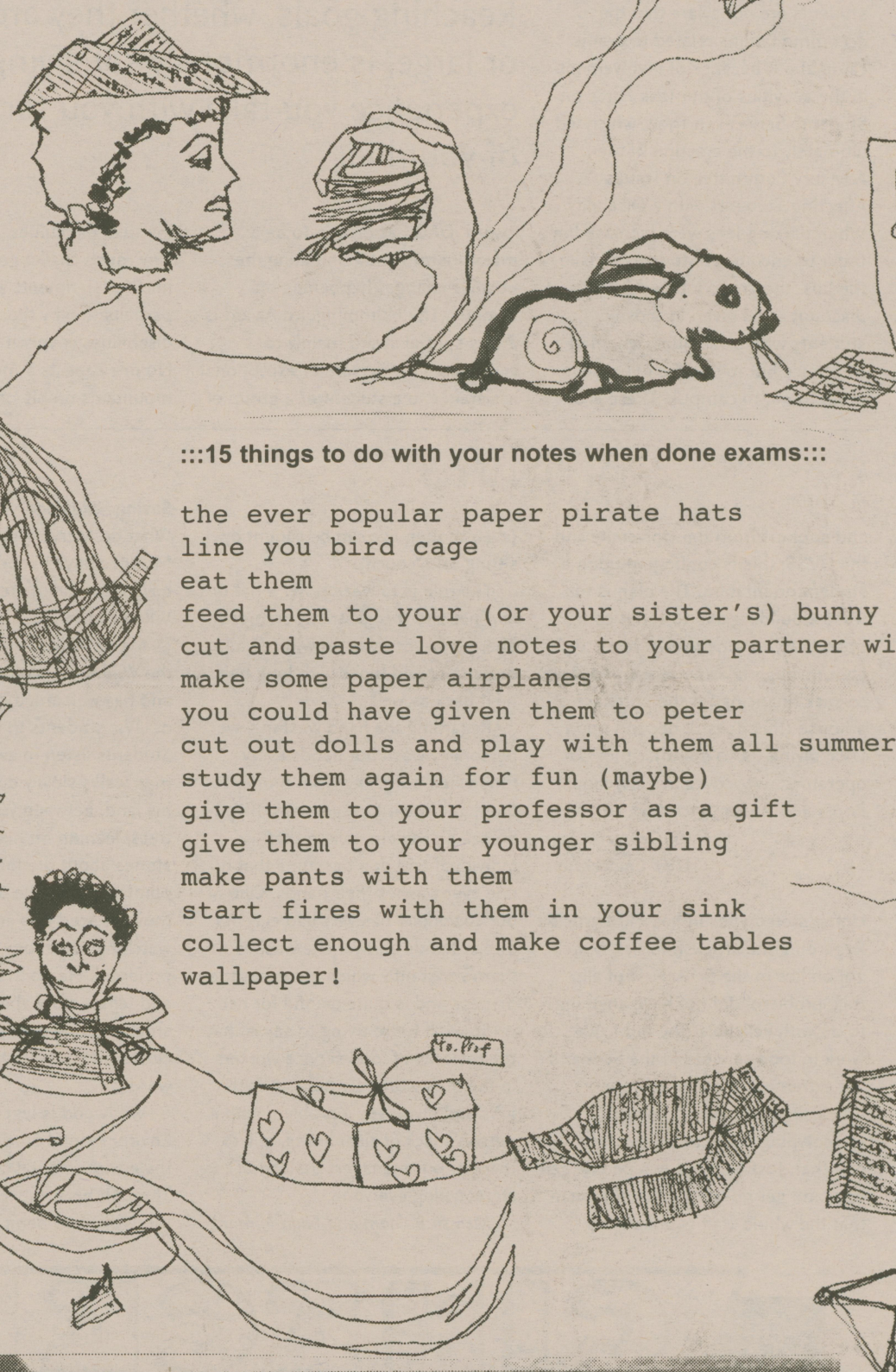
Merve Wilkinson is part owner of the Wildwood eco-forestry reserve and has welcomed class after class of UVic students to visit him there. Students listen in awe as this elderly man walks slowly down the trails on his land, between young and ancient trees, leaning on his cane and telling stories about the forest. He stops to point out a tree he determined was the best seed tree around after watching which one the squirrels preferred. He points the other way and tells a story about logging a small clearing with horses. The cluster of students hang on his every word.

Wildwood is legendary among Environmental Studies students and the environmental community. Through his lifestyle and business, Mr. Wilkinson demonstrates an awareness of nature around him and the role he plays in conserving it. His teachings have been passed on to so many others that they will not be lost with him, and now the Land Conservancy of BC is trying to save his property as well. The Land Conservancy is well on their way to saving Wildwood. The downpayment has been made, and now they are fundraising $20,000 a month for the next two years. This is where Anne Mortifee comes in.

Along with Bob Bossin and Vocal Point, Anne Mortifee will be playing a benefit concert April 21 at the UVic Centre to help The Land Conservancy reach their goals. The evening will include music, food and a slide show about Wildwood. Tickets are available at the UVic Box office, through Ticketmaster, at Munro's books, or by calling The Land Conservancy at 479-8053.

Karina Low

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA



:::15 things to do with your notes when done exams:::

the ever popular paper pirate hats
line you bird cage
eat them
feed them to your (or your sister's) bunny
cut and paste love notes to your partner with them
make some paper airplanes
you could have given them to peter
cut out dolls and play with them all summer
study them again for fun (maybe)
give them to your professor as a gift
give them to your younger sibling
make pants with them
start fires with them in your sink
collect enough and make coffee tables
wallpaper!

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45c de; rs; ped rm. tle Floor

preparation. Those who talk peace now have fallen victims to t ceaseless cunning of German prop ganda. Their claim to make the voices heard is presumptuous, f they only comprise an infinitesim part of the British peoples. The arguments must be answered, but would be folly and cowardice to sh any leaning towards their views display the slightest disposition to the bidding of—

a venal band
Who are to judge of danger which th fear,
And honor which they do not unde stand.

If we were to make peace wi Germany now on the basis of c map of Europe as it exists—and Ge many will not negotiate on any basis—the cease to exis have passed. for our own freedom of civ cause is at st than in the da Napoleon. Just will win now b admit the possib wearness can fin heart of a nati tributed so large fidelity to the help in his pronounce if peace can be s traying the great for which Britain e is willing to learn and gratefully, but for which we entered accomplished there c In a similar crisis W As sincere lovers of not sacrifice it by g shadow, when the real stantially within our then, do we refuse pe it is deceptive, because ous, because it cannot

THE DEMAND FOR

We repeat the sugg vanced some time ago th battalions should be re British Columbia for wor own forests. As will be see letter from Capt. A. G. which we print today lumbe produced here infinitely chea in England by a forestry co could be shipped and sold purposes and made available larger quantities than it is n tained, and the venture, even ing for losses in transport, woul doubtedly be profitable. Fo lumber trade alone the buildin wooden ships means an ind which could be expanded at pleasure, for Europe's demand for lumber from this continent will exist for many years after the war. As a war measure there should be forestry battalions at work in our forests

trance into Canada, when killed to speak in Winnipeg, they must not wonder if one questions where they stand.

They will do one of three things: Come out boldly and declare themselves with us heart and soul, or start a rebellious controversy on the side, or keep silent on this question.

While thousands and still thousands are giving their purest for the defence of liberty and righteousness, others are carrying on in Canada and United States a ghastly peace agitation under the cloak of religious activity. Those who do this are the real persecutors, so far as they have power and opportunity they endeavor to prepare as a 'parent' or main cause to which the

All nations then shall take thy hand
Now, and for ever.

—E. COLLETT,
Perranporth, Cornwall, England,
October, 1917.

Parcels for Prisoners

OTTAWA, March 15.—It is pointed out by the deputy postmaster-general here that in accordance with a memorandum issued by the German authorities, all parcels for prisoners of war in Germany should be addressed to the 'parent' or main camps to which the

New Cabinet in Roumania

WASHINGTON, March 15.—News of the resignation of the Roumanian Cabinet headed by M. Averesen was contained in a dispatch to the State Department today from Jassy. A new Cabinet, the message said, will be formed by M. Mergiimalon.

THOMASVILLE, Ga., March 14—

FIFTY YEARS AGO TODAY

(From The Daily Colonist, March 16, 1868).

The Weather—When we read of fearful floods, causing great destruction of life and property in various portion of the States, snow falling so deep in others as to stop all traffic, the thermometer reaching 20 degrees below zero, as low down, too, as lat. 40 and 41, we are forced to the conclusion that we up in lat. 49 and 50, with our fine sunshiny weather and dust actually flying in the streets, are a most highly favored people. The Winter, according to all accounts, has been severe and trying in most northern latitudes, while we have barely found it necessary to wear an overcoat throughout the season.

Nanaimo Items—The output of coal at the mines in Nanaimo during

FEATURE april 5, 2001 9

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Saturday, March 16, 1918

FALLACIOUS PEACE TALK

Premier Lloyd George is on sa ground in saying there is no basis present for peace negotiation Britain's profession was made at t outset of the war. She promised n to sheathe the sword until Belgiu was restored, until liberty was vind cated, until Prussian militarism w destroyed, until other objects, equal necessary to the world's future fre dom, were attained. None of the things has been accomplished. Britain were to discuss peace no she would be making herself an a complice to Germany's manifo crimes. The time has not yet con in the story of the British race wh we are prepared to condone su crimes as the rape of Belgium, t piracy of the submarines and scor of other outrages on law and chi alry. "The appeal of this war," sa Mr. Lloyd George, "is greater tha patriotism because it is an appeal f help against all the forces of brut ity and a cry of conscience again the greed and lust of one power."

The British Prime Minister w speaking to the members of the Fr Church and he appealed to them have nothing to do with those "wh are seeking to undermine the fib and morale of the nation." He wan the Church to support the sacr trust for which we are fighting, f he believes there was never a mo holy war than that now being wage Mr. Lloyd George has a tremendo task to sustain, probably the heav est part of which is the constant e fort to dispel the flickering promis of peace before any goal has be attained. He does not believe negotiating with an enemy wh wishes to sit at a peace conferen in the guise of a conqueror, and o who, as it has been shown in t case of Russia, can turn a truce the treacherous purpose of

supplies ove[rseas] to be placed at the disposal of the British and French Governments.

We are very [slow] in British Columbia in seiz[ing] upon trade opportunities. If [the] Government can shelve responsibility, [the] opportunity is never missed. [It] is true the administration which preceded the present one b[rought] in legislation to aid

LETTERS TO EDITOR

No letter to the Editor will be inserted except over the proper signature and address of the writer. This rule admits of no exceptions.

Our Lumbering Industry

Sir,—With reference to your forceful and timely article on the above subject in this morning's issue, I would like to draw attention to a few

BILL HAS DEFECTS

But Legislature Instructs Committee to Consider Engineers' Measure on Its Merits

Because of certain technical objections the bill introduced as a private measure and having for its object the incorporation of the Engineers and Technical Institute was not proceeded with by the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature. It was returned

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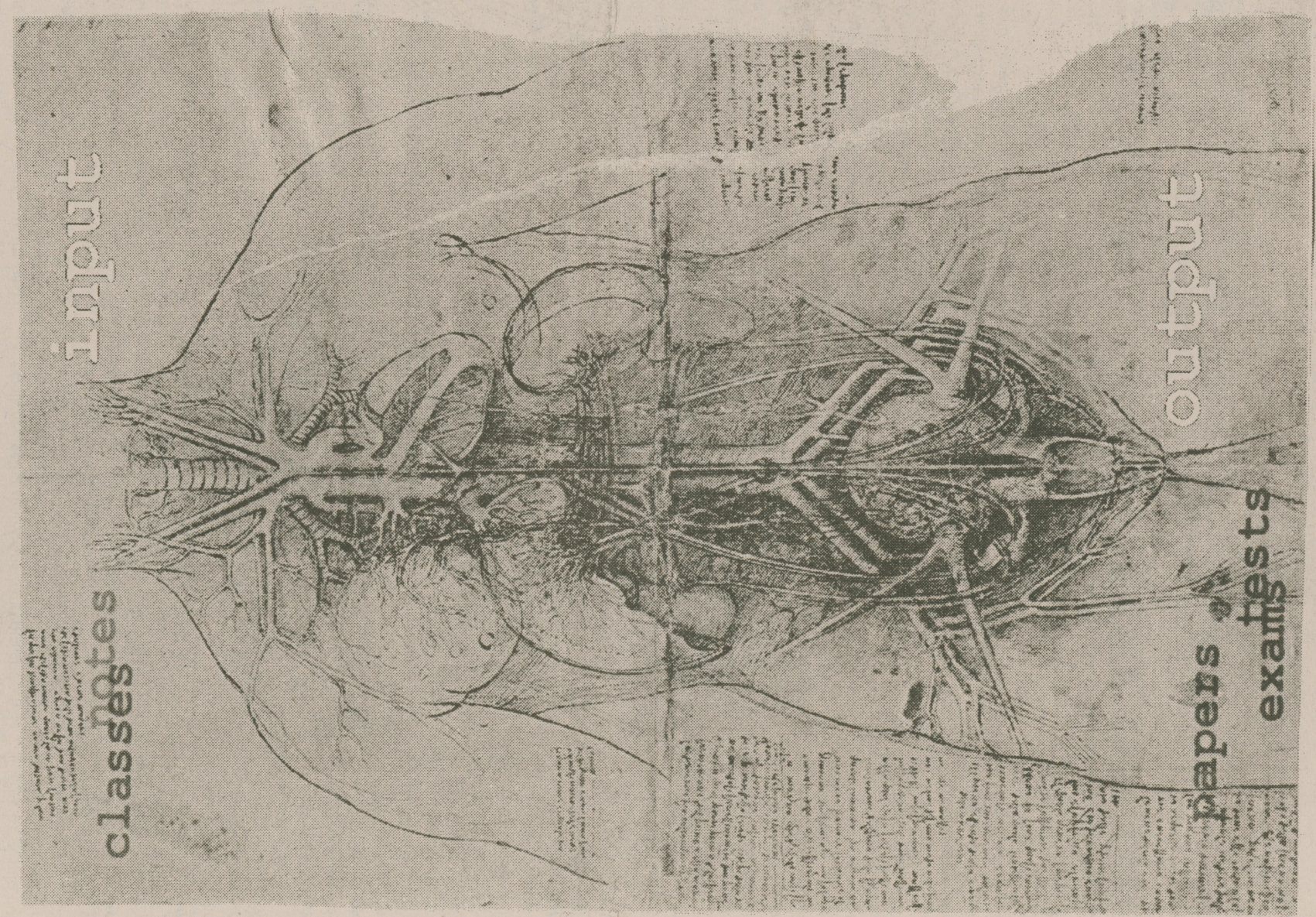

in·put (in-puut) *n.* 1. what is put in. 2. the place where energy or information etc. enters a system. **input** *v.* to put in or out. 2. to supply (data, programs, etc., to a computer).

out·put (owt-putt) n. 1. the amount produced. 2. the electrical power produced by a machine. 3. the work done by a computer, especially the transmission of information from an internal computer unit to an external one or to an outside device.

British
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ues, Bedford Cords
rtment.

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for ladies' white suits;
weave; in fine, medium-
cord; 44 inches wide.

White Fancy Vest-
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children's frocks, ladies'
wide. Yard, 50c.

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in abundance of beauti-
n purple, greens, blues,
bble, rose, navy and
rimmed with flowers,
the new wool trim-
fue at $7.50.

—Millinery, First Floor

r Spring

moisette Gloves, in white,
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MUSIC OPINION

More boy bands anyone? The lowdown on O-Town

by Simon Glezos

So I was trolling around television the other day, looking for signs of intelligent life, when I crossed paths with Rapid Fax, Muchmusic's supposed "news" program. The host of the show, a life-support system for a hairdo, informed us that Justin Timberlake, one of the vat-grown members of N'Sync, had called rival boy band O-Town quote, "stupid" and "not real." I quickly changed the channel in the hopes that the mind-boggling irony of this statement wouldn't cause reality to rend in two. "stupid" and "not real"? Isn't that kind of like the pot calling the kettle manufactured?

I proceeded to go about my day, paying this comment little more attention, until a brief rummage through *the Martlet* cd review box produced a copy of O-Town's premier cd, creatively titled *O-Town*. The words of my spiritual mentor, Special Agent Dale Cooper, sprung to mind: "When two events pertaining to the same object of inquiry occur, special attention must be paid." I quickly quieted any misgivings I might have had, pocketed the cd, and slinked out of the offices for fear of being seen as a reviewer with poor taste. I'll confine my comments to their first single "Liquid Dreams." (This is not only for your sake, but decreases the amount of the cd that I actually have to listen to.)

The music is what one has come to expect of the genre. Bland synth-pop music with vocals that could, I suppose, generously be called five-part harmony. I was a little perplexed as to why, when assembling this rag-tag team of misfit singers, they would choose five guys with essentially indistinguishable vocal ranges. For Christ's sake, throw in a baritone!

The lyrics, no doubt generated by the Lyrics-Bot 5000, range from the perplexing to the downright offensive. The message of the song (if it can be referred to as a message, or a song for that matter) seems to be a love note dedicated to a fictional Dream Woman consisting of a combination of the most desirable attributes (mainly body parts) of several different famous women.

Allow me to transcribe a little segment: "I dream about a girl who's a mix of Destiny's Child, just a little touch of Madonna's wild style, with Janet Jackson's smile, throw in a body like Jennifer, you've got the star of my liquid dreams." And that is, I assure you, the best it gets. Even putting aside the blatant sexism and misogyny of objectifying women by reducing them to their component physical attributes, that's just poor songwriting.

(As a fun side-note, I swear there's a graduate thesis to be written about the creation of a pantheon of post-modern deities out of celebrity simulacras. You know, Jen Love Hewitt as the new Aphrodite, Freddie Prince Jr. as Apollo. Feel free to steal that.)

The rest of the album's not much better, though at least slightly less shameless. Innocuous professions of eternal love written to faceless feminine icons of virtue and perfection, only to be forgotten in the time it takes to change tracks. By about track four, I started having trouble telling the songs apart. By track seven, I was having trouble feeling my extremities.

For those of you whose attention span hasn't been sufficiently worn down by modern culture, you might remember O-Town as the stars of ABC's "reality" tv show, *Making the Band*.

It's tough for me to criticize the individual members of O-town, because in all fairness, I can't really fault them. If somebody came to me and said I could be rich and famous, and all I'd have to do is walk around with cool hair, I'd jettison my ethics faster than you can say "The Baha Men." Nor can I target the music companies, who are just doing what they've been designed to do with ruthless efficiency. I can, however, criticize you, the general public. (Attacking the audience is always a good way to get the reader on your side.) It's an example of how firmly the concepts of art and industry have been equivocated in our society that being so callously and obviously assembled by a record company is no longer a stigma, but rather a selling point. After all, if the measure of a band is their financial success, then what can indicate excellence better than being hand picked by a monolithic corporation?

And petty, sarcastic articles like this one do very little to help the situation. All I've done over the past 800 words is give them free advertising and more firmly entrench them in the public's consciousness. It's not like their popularity really matters all that much to the record industry. As my friend likes to put it, "They'll make money off the trend, and then they'll make money off the backlash." The success of MTV's boy band spoof show *2Gether* would seem to prove this fact.

So in the end, we're left with little help. We're damned if we just let bands like this run roughshod over the arts scene, but if we protest too hard we run the risk of shoring up support for the next trend. What's the answer? Give up, I say, there's no hope. Either that or support your local independent music scene, assuring the development of new music outside of the industry system. I'm cool either way.

After all, if the measure of a band is their financial success, then what can indicate excellence better than being hand picked by a monolithic corporation?

Croak is cool

Bullfrog hops hot at Lucky

by Jonathan Rothman

The requirements for packing a downtown Victoria venue on a Monday night in March are as follows: a tight six-piece band that includes a dj, vocals and four sharply-tuned musicians who call themselves the Bullfrog Band.

Local dj Verse warmed up the crowd at Lucky Bar March 26 with a set of funky house, while the Montreal-based Bullfroggers awaited their set from the backstage alcove next to the washrooms. The band sold out at Vancouver's Commodore Ballroom (a venue much larger than Lucky Bar) in a double bill with fellow electronic organic fusionists Herbaliser the previous Saturday night.

Bullfrog's musicians preceded turntablist dj Kid Koala as they filed out onto the stage. What followed was an impressive two-hour set of live and often improvised music, which fused the Kid's electronic beats with the organic funk, hip hop and jazz.

Led by vocalist and mc BluRum 13, the Bullfrog Band played selections from their new self-titled release, as well as older favourites and on-the-fly jams. Though BluRum was not present for every number, guitarist Mark Robertson and percussionist Joanna Peters provided vocal harmonies.

A high point of the evening was the freestyle rapping of BluRum 13, who took words as they came from random samples Kid Koala scratched out. Peters also received loud accolades for her stunning solos on the conga and bongo drums, which seemed like a blur of two hands and five smokin' drumheads. Drummer Massimo Max Sansalone and bassist Peter Santiago joined Peters in a lively Brazilian percussion entrada which grew into a heavy samba jam. Santiago and Sansalone were as well-received for their skills as the airtight rhythm section.

The audience welcomed the nine-year old Bullfrog Band back to Victoria after a year's absence. The group last visited the Garden City in spring 2000 as Kid Koala's backing band. BluRum and Kid Koala begun their musical collaboration in 1994 when Bullfrog met up with Robertson and the rest of the Bullfrogs at a Montreal Jaz festival.

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FILM REVIEW

Ride to the Hills fails to satisfy carnal taste

Biking on-screen no fun if riders don't eat it

Ride To The Hills
Premiered at Vertigo, March 30

by Steve Canning

For dedicated riders, mountain bike films evoke a reaction otherwise reserved for pornography or car accidents: you feel guilty about it, but you can't not watch the screen.

The one crucial difference is that with mountain bike movies, the victims of your attention are not exploited women or unfortunate crash victims, but rather, riders who are voluntarily subjecting themselves to your scrutiny. In fact, their greatest pleasure in life comes from performing the twisted feats that you watch in suspense. *Ride to the Hills*, Jorli Ricker's latest free ride mountain bike film, displays some of this sickness with super-slick production. However, *Ride* pales in comparison with the locally-made *DIRT*, a similar production which premiered soon after.

If all riders were virtuous people looking only to see their fellow riders pull off amazing stunts unharmed, *Ride to the Hills* could be the perfect movie.

Ricker's film is one of the most stylish mountain bike films to date. His soundtrack is particularly fresh, and has avoided falling into the tired punk rock and heavy metal mixture. Ryan Leech's section, shot entirely at night and set to hip-hop, highlights the progression he is pushing by mixing flatland and trials techniques. The requisite Wade Simmons section has a strong urban flavour, which has electronic beats fueling its technical nature. Probably the most triumphant moment of the film is Dave Watson's heli-descent shot in Squamish from the air accompanied by the sounds of a grand symphonic.

The most obvious example of Ricker pulling from his experience in the world of snowboard film-making and bringing elements into the mountain bike realm is during the Kevin Sansalone (also a pro snowboarder) section. The series of short shots of him in the air are executed in classic snowboard film style. The huge hip and gap jumps created for the film, some with a bobcat, are another indication of his background.

Ride to the Hills showcases a polished, stylized presentation, but talented riding is also one of its weaknesses. The riders always seem so smooth and controlled, the filmography so slick, that we lose some of the sick edginess inherent in mountain biking. The film takes us to an almost artificial strip of mountain bike perfection. The huge airs and stupid lines are less fulfilling when we are sure that the riders will pull it off. Some dark part of us always wants them to fall and become mangled masses of bike and flesh.

In contrast, the second premiere of the evening, *DIRT*, managed to retain the wild nature of riding. This film was created over the last year by Vancouver Island-based Chris Hancock and Vinny Spronken. Shot on slightly lower quality equipment, with no big-name riders, the film is more true to the experiences of most riders. It is easier for us to imagine ourselves standing at the top of a drop or ladder bridge. While the riding is still ballsy, it is not as severe as *Ride*. The drops are smaller and the lines are saner. The riders are not professional, so it seems to be very possible that one of them will fall to their death. This excites our morbid underside much more.

Ride To The Hills is an amazingly well-produced movie, but it just doesn't compete *DIRT* or the with the severity already presented in last season's *New World Disorder*. If all riders were virtuous people looking only to see their fellow riders pull off amazing stunts unharmed, *Ride* could be the perfect movie. However, for those of us who are flawed by human nature, it doesn't quite satisfy our carnal desires.

photo + text by Deddeda Stemler

Captivating Capoeira. Far-out fire dancers. Bewitching belly dancers. And a Marimba band. All under one roof last Saturday, March 31 at Vertigo. Planet Rhythm, hosted by Matt Laundrie, provided an evening of enticing, high-energy entertainment. Local Groupo Axe Capoeira got the rhythm and funk, playing live Brazilian music, as the talented Capoeira performers displayed their outstanding athleticism and Brazilian martial arts skills. Fluid acrobatics with sticks and swift machete movements were just a few of the many highlights. The Hayo Bola Fire Dancers kept the audience mesmerized with their flaming-fire routines. Wearing face and body paint, the fire dancers performed an amazing show of whirling fire-balls and batons. Gaining popularity in Victoria, with a recent show at Earth Groove, the Hayo Bola Fire Dancers is one group to watch for. After an enchanting performance by two hip-shimmying belly dancers, the night ended with a l'il grooving on the dance floor to the sweet percussion sounds of xylophones and shakers by the Marimba band, Solstix.

CULTURE RANT

Your poop doesn't belong in the closet

Talking crap in an intolerant world

by Jason Gondziola

I'm here to discuss a very important issue: Poop Shame. What's that, you ask? Well, let me tell you: Poop Shame is the name I have given for the poop taboo. I say enough of this poop taboo that forbids the discussion of fecal matter in our society.

Now, before you flip the page, hear me out. Please.

This weekend I attended a party. It was a party full of educated and, arguably, enlightened people, and so I decided to relate a story about some Mayan descendants who live on the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico. These indigenous peoples pick snails out of a swamp and then eat them. After eating the snails, they proceed to eat corn. There is an enzyme in the snails that aids in the digestion of corn. (Anyone who has looked in the toilet recently will recall that corn is not digestible).

Anyhow, I shared my amazement of this discovery with a group of friends, stating that I would very much like to eat some of these snails along with some corn-on-the-cob. I further described the state of ecstasy that would certainly ensue upon my finding the yellow corn-remnants conspicuously absent from my "brown friends" the next day.

It was at this point that one friend tilted back in his seat and began to uneasily fidget. "Whoooooaaa..." he exclaimed, slowly rising to his feet to vacate the area. Upon his leaving, an uneasy silence settled over the room.

Now, I don't know if it was coincidence, but I'm going to wager that it was not. I'm going to wager that I was subtly being ostracized because I chose to share my thoughts about these fascinating Mayan people and their even more fascinating digestive discoveries.

I say this: take pride in your stool!

And so we have arrived at my motivation for writing this: I am here to express my disappointment in this world. Despite all of the technological and social advances we have made, from the microchip to the abolishment of apartheid, we still can't talk about fundamental human bodily functions.

Tell me, why does society feel uneasy about discussing the end products of the digestive process? Because Mommy and Daddy brought most of us up to believe that talking about poo-poo is for dirty little boys and girls. Now we're stumbling about, confused robots, excreting a pound or two of feces a day, yet being totally unable to discuss it.

For those people who choose to fixate on buttocks as a symbol of sexual attraction, keep this in mind: between the small crack of those fleshy globes is a hole. Remember the wonderful things that come spilling out of that hole at least once a day. Tell me now, is it still a cute ass?

Why should we keep our poop in the closet? Why should this fascinating by-product of the human process be left to be discussed only with our doctors? I say this: take pride in your stool! Never forget that every living person that you ever adored has taken a crap, whether it be Michael J. Fox, the Backstreet Boys, Stalin, or Jesus Christ. They all shat, and, if still living, will continue to do so until the day they die!

Anyhow, that's about all I have to say on the matter. Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to go and take a shit. A big, boiling, brown, steamroller of a shit. And you know what? I'm going to enjoy it, too.

I hope you all do the same.

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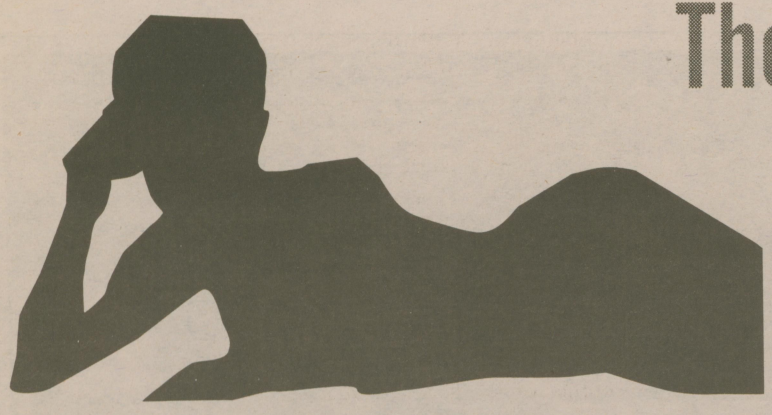

The politics of skin

Both condoned and condemned, porn is ultimately a viewer's choice

by Summer Bracey

Greatly debated amongst feminists, pornography is often viewed as an activity that adds to gender inequality. Condemned by certain feminist lobby groups as a form of media that demeans and degrades women, pornography is also supported by pro-sex feminists who see the form as a healthy way to explore and express sexuality.

Traditionally coined from a Greek word, pornography was originally defined by its component roots: the root "porno" meaning "prostitution," or "female captives" and the root "graphos" meaning "writing about" or "description of." Therefore, translated directly, pornography means the description of prostitution. Today, the definition is much more general so that it may include all of the different types of existing pornography. Keeping that in mind, pornography is defined by Microsoft Encarta as "written, graphic or oral depictions of erotic subjects intended to arouse sexual excitement in the audience."

The amount of pornography on the market today is incredible. Out of every 10 magazines in production, six are pornographic in nature.

Pornography, as an industry, is larger than the film and music industries, put together. According to *Not a Love Story*, a film by the National Film Board of Canada, 'sex supermarkets' (stores which sell accessories, magazines, pictures, movies) may take in as much as $10,000 a day. With such an incredibly large trade, pornography is hard to control.

Sex supermarkets selling accessories, magazines, pictures and movies may take in as much as $10,000 a day.

Feminists for pornography have argued that the medium is a healthy form of expression and experimentation with sexual issues. Some feminists regard pornography as a form of sexual liberation. Wendy McElroy, author of *A Feminist Defense of Pornography*, claimed in 1997 that the past decade had seen an increase in the numbers of feminists who campaigned for "a woman's choice to participate in and to consume pornography."

Nina Hartley is an ex-sex-worker. She knows firsthand that posing for pornography is an uncoerced choice that can be enriching. Like Hartley, pro-sex feminists retain a consistent interpretation of the principle: "a woman's body, a woman's right" by insisting that every peaceful choice a woman makes with her own body must be accorded full legal protection, if not respect.

In many pornographic pictures, stories and movies, females take on dominant, fantasy-fulfilling roles, which can be attractive to certain women who, unfortunately, cannot find that kind of control in everyday life. Almost all of those (female and male), involved in the creation of these sexually explicit productions find a chance to act out fantasies, which, in other contexts, may be seen as odd, abnormal or even sickening. This, McElroy claims, is a reason why many think that the use of pornography should be considered a private issue and should not be censored by regulatory sectors of the government.

Liberal feminists look upon the matter of pornography with a more non-committal, pro-choice view. However, the views of these liberal feminists vary. Some believe that the use of pornography is dreadful, but accept it because they are strong advocates of free speech and opponents of censorship. Campaigning against censorship does allow for a freer distribution of pornography to viewers. This wider distribution might address some problems caused by discrimination. However, the real danger of censorship may serve to silence the very voices that aim raise awareness toward social change.

On the other end of the spectrum are the gender feminists, who are strongly opposed to pornography. They see pornography as harmful because of its abusive nature, not its sexual content. In *Not A Love Story*, David S. Wells, editor and publisher of five pornographic magazines, says pornography "is a reaction to women's liberation." Explaining that men feel like they have lost their masculinity due to the "women's lib," they find sanctuary in dominating and degrading women in any way possible. However, in the next sentence, Mr. Wells contradicts himself by saying that pornography is "sex education," not an "anti-woman movement" and it is "not degrading."

So, is pornography degrading?

One example of such a "non-degrading" act is portrayed on the front cover of *Hustler* magazine. It shows a naked woman, her head, shoulders and upper torso, consumed by a meat-grinder. Another example is the sex show named *Beat the Bitch*, where a woman is bound and gagged while a man rips her hair out and bites her. It seems, to some feminists, that pornography is only used to control and demean women, and sometimes it is hard to see otherwise.

Pornography has been exposed as a medium that glorifies sexual violence and fosters the desensitization of its viewers. Pornography can rob women of their humanity and dignity, as the medium suggests that women exist solely for the fulfillment of men's most violent needs and strangest fantasies. *Not a Love Story* examines the adverse effects of pornography on the viewer. Research proved that after extensive viewing of pornography, the viewer becomes less affected by the content and, when faced with a situation (like rape), will tend to accept the dangerous situation as a norm and therefore, fail to protect themselves from being harmed. It is this culmination of events that propagates violence against women.

The gender feminists' are backed by supporters who believe that pornography should be regulated by the law. These people think that pornography should be illegal because of its "explicit and degrading nature," which furthers violence against women.

Pornography can be positive, it acts as an easy way to express sexuality. However, the medium provides a means by which women can be dehumanized and dominated by men. There are many difficulties encountered when trying to make a decision about pornography, because there are so many types. In the end the effects of pornography depend on its viewers. The regulation of pornography should be left to the viewer and their individual opinions about the nature of the material.

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Tits and ass vs. talent:

A look at the travails of women in professional sport

by Kris Kotarski

Calgary (CUP) – Christine Nordhagen told us a story. The women's world champion wrestler says a title appropriately named "Ms. Lutte" is given to the prettiest female wrestler at certain tournaments. At the European Championships in France a couple of years ago, a Polish competitor won the award and with it a white poodle. That was the grand prize.

"It's ridiculous," said Nordhagen. "This shows the mentality of the people organizing our sport.

"The men vote on the prettiest girl," she added with disappointment. "It has nothing to do with skill."

With changing times and changing attitudes, more girls are involved in sport, more grow up to be fit women and many, like Nordhagen, compete at the highest level. But as the "Ms. Lutte" example shows, there is still a long way to go.

Sport is pure. Sport doesn't hate, discriminate or deny opportunity. People and their attitudes cause inequality, and women's athletics is an area where inequalities prevail. For example, any volleyball fan can point out the difference between regulation shorts for men and women.

Women's shorts are much skimpier and tighter than men's, and the reason holds as much water as a sieve. It's just one subtle distinction in how society views men's and women's athletics.

"Longer shorts are associated with toughness and aggressiveness," said University of Calgary Kinesiology professor Monika Schloeder. "The short shorts convey a certain helplessness. Really, the underlying subtleness is that media sells its sports-casting as an emotional outlet and it's esthetic to see more flesh.

"We've made some improvement in the media but we still see the women portrayed in a passive stance, not grimacing in pain or exhausted," Schloeder added. "Most males identify [female athletes] with sexuality, not competition."

Aside from media portrayal, women also have problems with opportunity. While circumstances have improved, there is still ground to gain.

"You have a top-notch [female] high school player, [who] goes to university, and then what?" asked Schloeder. "They can maybe go overseas. But that takes the role model away and doesn't bring her home."

"Exposure is a problem," agreed Carolyn Whitburn, head coach of the wrestling and rugby squads at Bishop Carroll High *School in Calgary. "It would be great to see women's sports get* the press they deserve."

Another of Whitburn's hopes is more funding for amateur athletics. However, she's unsure if the money will ever be equal for the two sexes, even if the athletes compete at the same level. There is still more emphasis on male athleticism in our society and it doesn't look like that's going to change.

But there have been strides in how women view sport.

"It's cool to be fit now," said Nordhagen. "We have way more opportunities than before." But opportunities are not everything, especially when the media still looks at female athletes in old-fashioned ways.

Anna Kournikova is a tennis player, not a model. But it's Kournikova who gets airtime ahead of more deserving female athletes. "Just compare the talent of [Martina] Hingis versus Anna," smiled Schloeder.

"What [Anna] is good for is taking pictures," added Whitburn.

Kournikova cashes in on her looks. This raises the question: will women's sport ever be separated from the confines of femininity? "No," answered an emphatic Schloeder. "It's against the natural instincts of mankind. Just look at Jackie Joyner Kersee versus Florence Griffith Joyner. Flo-Jo has the nails, the sexual persona, but who's the better athlete?"

A more serious approach towards female athletes in the media would be appreciated, but it's hard for the press to resist focusing on attractive women. "They [female athletes] are not doing this to be cute athletes. They're doing this to be good athletes," said Whitburn.

Unfortunately, that doesn't seem to be the way our world looks at women's sport. Just look at the poodle-winning "Ms. Lutte." The title is still around, and that's maybe the best indication of how much women in sports still have to achieve in *terms of equality.*

Rediscovering a childhood passion at the World Skating Championships

For the first time since 1996, the best amateur figure skaters in the business came to Canada to battle it out for the World Championships – the last one before next year's Salt Lake City Winter Olympics.

by Dena vanDalfsen

I started figure skating in 1983. I was three years old. I worked through all the badges: pre-beginner, beginner, elementary, basic, novice... I also graduated from wool skating outfits knitted for me by my grandmother to fluorescent yellow spandex in 1989. I was the height of fashion. In 1992, I was forced to quit because my family couldn't afford private lessons, but I have never lost interest in the sport.

My sister, Lisa, skated as well and my mom was an assistant coach, so my older brother lost many tv battles. Whether it was nationals, world, Olympics, or a Stars on Ice performance, my brother missed his favourite sitcom because, of course, 3-1 majority rules.

So, when I found out last fall that the 2001 World Figure Skating Championships were coming to Vancouver (the first Canadian city to host the competition since Edmonton in 1996), I convinced my mom that we should go. Our problem was deciding which event to go see. Pairs has always been our favourite, but the chance of seeing Elvis Stojko skating what would probably be his last Worlds was also a big draw. Michelle Kwan and Irina Slutskaya are always fun too.

Eventually we decided to go to the Gala. This is the last event on the last day; after all the judging is over. The top five skaters from each discipline – men's, women's, pairs and dance – hit the ice relaxed and free from required elements to give the audience a great show.

Friday March 23, I took the ferry over to Vancouver. My mom and Lisa met me on the other side. Friday night we went shopping and bought my sister a $250 grad dress. Saturday was also spent shopping. My mom found the Tai Chi slippers she wanted and my sister spent hours trying on bras and shoes to go with her dress – with no success I should add. Saturday night we watched the women's free skate in our motel room. But forget all that – Sunday was the big day. An Omnimax film in the morning and then to GM Place for the 2001 World Figures Skating Championships Gala Event.

Our seats couldn't have been much worse, but that didn't bother us. The whole crowd was energetic and gobbled up all the skaters had to offer.

The Gala is a great show because, as I mentioned earlier, the pressure is off the skater; they've already won. The plain spotlights are exchanged for multi-coloured patters passing over the ice – red, white and blue, with stars for Todd Eldredge. Slow, classical music is discarded in favour of rock classics and pop favourites like Don Mclean's "American Pie" and the costumes are fun too. The crowd gets into clapping along with the music and the skaters are enticed back for encores by standing ovations and thunderous applause.

While my mom, my sister and I were disappointed not to see Stojko skate in the actual competition – he is a Canadian figure skating legend after all – we were kinda glad we hadn't been in the building when things fell apart (pun intended) for him during competition. Thus, the Canadian Men's champion and the Worlds' fifth place finisher opened the final show with a raucous performance that included a kiss for one lucky guy sitting up against the boards.

Ice dancing, the discipline that I usually like the least was surprisingly fun to watch live. The Canadian, French and Italian ice-dancers had particularly engaging programs. The 15-year-old American skater Sarah Hughes also did a really good job; her poise, maturity and talent are amazing for her age. She also vamped it up on the ice and bucked tradition by wearing pants. I was extremely impressed with Irina Slutskaya, and we feel that she should have beat Michelle Kwan for the ladies' title – she just appreciates her audience so much.

Kwan's performance, as my mom put it, was lacklustre. We missed Russian men's skater Alexei Yagudin, who managed to skate all week on a sore foot, but obviously decided to rest on Sunday. Evgeni Plushenko, the new men's champion, stole more than a few old ladies hearts with his hilarious and light-hearted his routine that included a costume of bulging fake muscles. Then he stripped down to those muscles and a gold lamé speedo. The way he managed to pull off his now trademark quad-triple-double jump combo in that muscle suit was absolutely amazing.

The last medallists to skate were Canadians Jamie Sale and David Pelletier – gold medal winners in the pairs competition, my favourite skaters in the circuit right now. The two, who have recently became romantically involved have an amazing magic on the ice. They are only surpassed by my favourite pair of all time, Canadians Isabel Brasseur and Lloyd Isler.

Their performance was upbeat, flawless and fun. They had everyone on their feet. The whole afternoon was topped of by a finale that showcased all the skaters, the Olympic rings and indoor fireworks. And to add on to all that, at intermission I discovered that GM Place sells churros. I've loved those things ever since I went to Disneyland nine years ago.

Stats and standings

2001 Spring Cup of Soccer
Centennial Stadium
March 31 - April 1

Men's

Victoria 4, UBC 0
UVic: Jason Owen (2), Chris Craveiro (2)

SFU 1, Concordia 1
**UVic wins their sixth-straight Spring Cup and their 11th in total.

Women's

Victoria 2, UBC 1

U of Alberta 2, SFU 0
**Alberta wins women's title

B.C. Premier League Rugby

Victoria 95, Seattle RFC 5
UVic: Tim Barrett (2), Mike Danskin (2), Ryan Ferry, Andrew Glason, Mark Lawson, Martin Jones, Milan Mrdjenovich, Eliot Anderson, Jay Nolet, Nick Bell, Jon Wray

Premier League Standings
(as of April 4/2001)

	W	L	D
Castaways	11	6	0
Ravens	11	6	0
James Bay	10	7	0
Burnaby Lk.	9	8	0
Pacific Pride	9	8	1
UVic Vikes	9	8	1
Melorama	6	10	0
Capilano	6	11	0
Seattle Rovers	4	14	0
	(Withdrew)		

10th Brown Cup of Rowing
Victoria Harbour
April 1

Men's

1. Victoria
2. UBC (25 seconds behind)

Women's

1. Victoria
2. UBC (45 seconds behind)

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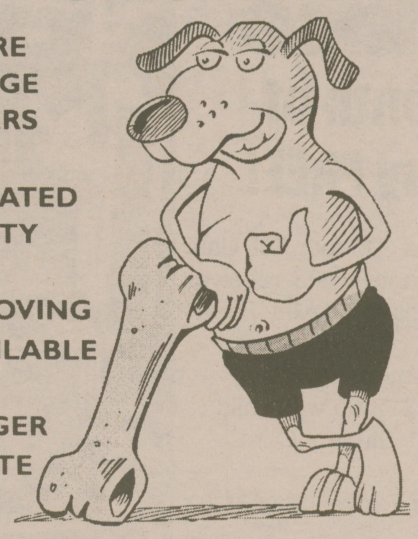

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Vikes rookie point guard Chris Trumpy: a modest champion

by Manusha Janakiram

For many people – too many if you ask me – basketball is little more than a moderately entertaining sport to be watched on tv, like March Madness or the NBA on TNT. For others it is merely a pick-up game played at school yards or, if one is fortunate enough, the gym. But not for Chris Trumpy.

When I met with him, and asked him to describe basketball, there was no hesitation. "It's my first love. I find it's a really good release from everyday life, and you're not thinking about your problems in life. You're just playing the game."

The Victoria native finished off his rookie season with the University of Victoria Men's Basketball team as the starting point guard, a large accomplishment in and of itself. For his efforts and outstanding performance throughout the season, Trumpy was named the Canada West conference's Rookie of the Year.

Along with fellow starters Ali Wilmott (shooting guard), and Sandy Bisaro (forward), Trumpy was a key component in the Vikes Canada West title run – secured against the two time defending champion University of Alberta Bears on March 4.

There is no shortage irony in this last fact considering that when it came to decide what university to attend, Trumpy had his choices narrowed down to Alberta and Victoria. What tipped his hand towards Victoria? "I liked the atmosphere at UVic, it's really relaxed I found, and the [basketball] program is really great," and, he added with a laugh, "I didn't like the weather in Alberta."

Guy Vetrie, Victoria's head coach for 12 years and the force behind the Vikes development program, had only praise for rookie playmaker. "From the beginning, Chris worked hard, and he demonstrated an innate sense and intelligence for the game that was integral to him taking over the [point guard] position," said Vetrie.

"It's a natural leadership position in itself, and he's a born leader." When asked to describe Trumpy in one word, the coach displayed no hesitation. "Talented."

> He could play anywhere... and there's not a lot of players you can say that about. He has the potential to play at the national level; it's just a matter of how much he wants it.
>
> *Gerry Mols*

This athletic ability is readily apparent on and off the hardwood. Trumpy remembers all the sports he has played – and excelled at – in addition to basketball. "Well I kind of played a bunch of stuff, I had to try everything. Baseball, soccer, cross-country, lacrosse and rugby."

In high school, in addition to basketball, he excelled at rugby. In his last year, the Oak Bay Barbarians had the best season in school history, losing only one game all season. Trumpy was an integral member of the Barbs who, ranked first in the province, went on to capture the provincial title.

Invited twice to try out for the Junior National Rugby Team, he turned them down both times. The first time he was in California with the school basketball team, and this year the camp clashed with the Vikes' season.

"The timing wasn't really right," he recalled. "If the try-outs had been during the off-season of basketball, I probably would have tried out, but it was too much of a conflict."

This was a bit of an odd statement because, after speaking with him for a while longer, it became readily apparent that whatever "off-season" he gets is terribly brief. This past weekend, he was in Vancouver trying out for the Under-19 provincial basketball team, which is coming together for the 2001 Canada Summer Games in London, Ont. If he makes it, he will train and practice all summer in preparation for the Aug. 11-25 games. And then it's back to Victoria for the Vikes preseason camp.

Trumpy has been working for Victoria's Sports Camps as a basketball coach. This helps to explain the adoration he and the rest of the team receive from children. Attend any Vikes' home game and the amount of kids with posters and players cards is astounding. "He's their hero," said an earnest Vetrie.

With the limelight comes the pressure to perform. Although this season much of the focus was on the shoulders of the veterans (such as Wilmott, Bisaro, and forward Keith Bustard), Trumpy found himself at centre stage more than once. Gerry Mols, former coach at Oak Bay, figured that this was a good thing – for Trumpy and the Vikes.

"I've known Chris since he was in grade eight when he played on the grade ten team, and I was impressed with his decision making then," Mols stated. "He likes the tough situation. When things are close and there's a lot of pressure, he's not afraid to take a risk, to take the game winning shot or make the defensive play, he has a history of doing so."

As for dealing with the pressure he has had this year and that to come in the future, Chris is not going to shy away from it. "I like the pressure, it's kind of why I play. It's the best part of playing [basketball]."

But high school basketball is a world away from the CIAU; in addition to the few rule changes are the ramped up speed and tempo at which men's university ball is played. Trumpy hasn't been too phased by it, acknowledging the guidance provided by the squad's two fifth year guards: Wilmott and Jamie Blake. "They both had a huge influence on my first year and showed me the ropes of how you play CIAU basketball," said Trumpy.

As Canada West Champions, the Vikes travelled to Halifax March 16-18, to compete for the national title. Victoria entered the eight team tournament seeded 7th, and in the first/quarter final round were defeated by the #2 seed Western Mustangs. A disappointing loss for the team and Trumpy to be sure.

"We didn't play to our potential; we could have beaten Western... and then Saturday, well... we just got shit-kicked," he lamented, referring to the 90-58 thrashing at the hands of the Saint Mary's Huskies in the consolation semi-finals.

Despite Victoria's early exit from the finals – or perhaps because of it – Trumpy is most definitely hungry for more Final Eight action. "It was an awesome atmosphere to play in. At one of our games we had like 8000 people at the game and I definitely want to go back."

From the moment he sat down with me, Trumpy seemed very much at ease. Stretched out in the chair with his ankles crossed, he emanated relaxation. Not long after I pressed the "record" button, a sneaking suspicion began to blossom in my mind that this wasn't the first time Trumpy had seen a microphone stuck in his face – then I remembered the stack of 30 or more newspaper articles his high school coach had shown me the previous day. Unlike some athletes, Trumpy's time in front of the limelight has left him modest and quite humble.

From the conversation, it's obvious that his athleticism and self-effacing nature are traits acquired, in large part, from his mom and dad. As a family, the Trumpys appear to be rather close. For example, his mom Carrie and sister flew out to Nova Scotia for the nationals to support the Vikes and their point guard.

Both parents have athletic backgrounds and remain involved with sports today. The day I was supposed to meet with the Trumpys, his mom was in Vancouver coaching field hockey. I spoke with his dad, Chris senior, who explained how his name was passed on to his son. "When he was born, my wife and I each had a veto on names and the only name we could agree on was Chris."

Bearing the same name may have something to do with similar traits that the father and son share. Besides a portion of the athletic genes, Trumpy's relaxed nature definitely comes from his dad; on the other hand, his competitiveness, I was told, is more maternal.

As for the impressive number of sports that Chris played, the Trumpy's have always had solid reasoning. "My wife and I are strong believers that if we kept our children busy, then they would keep themselves out of trouble," said Chris senior. Besides making sure he stayed out of trouble, both of Chris' parents served as his role models. "They're just really true to themselves and that's a big quality in people I admire," admitted Trumpy.

As for school, Trumpy is like most if not all first year students. He's not too sure what he wants to do in the future, maybe business, maybe not – he is keeping his options open. But being a varsity athlete and maintaining a good GPA is difficult.

"If you want to do well it's up to you. You can't do homework on the road: you have your buddy in there watching tv, and you're sitting at the desk trying to do homework, it just doesn't work out," Trumpy complained. "If you have work to do on the road you get behind, but if you make a conscientious effort to keep up you do."

When he's done university, Trumpy would like to go on playing basketball, and nobody I talked to thought it was past his capabilities. Said Mols, "he could play anywhere... and there's not a lot of players you can say that about. He has the potential to play at the national level; it's just a matter of how much he wants it. As his skills improve, the sky is the limit."

And how does Chris feel about it? "I think getting to play basketball and see the world is one of the few best things you can do, and if I can pursue that then I definitely will," he noted. "I think representing Canada is one of the biggest honours you can get; if I ever got the opportunity, I'd definitely go for it."

And if he doesn't, there is a back-up plan. "I'd definitely like to get into coaching. It's just a whole different way to approach the game. But," he added with a smile, "I'll wait till I'm done playing."

photo by Richard Warrington

Vikes' first-year sensation Chris Trumpy (#12) takes the ball to the Lethbridge Pronghorns in McKinnon gym on February 23.

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ON CAMPUS

Graduation party 2001! Cheap beer, 15 musical acts and 2000 of your closest friends! **Sat. April 7.** Tix at SUB Info Booth. Info 721-8355.

UVic Medieval Club will be having their AGM on **May 7th**. For more information Call 382-4868

Graduation oboe recital: Nadine Mikolajow. **Mon. April 9** at 8 p.m. in the Philip T. Young Recital Hall, MacLaurin B-wing. Free admission.

Fundraiser for local acting students. We will be holding a fundraiser to recuperate travel expenditures to the First National Student Film Competition, sponsored by Film Canada. The evening will include live music and screenings of the three films entered by Victoria Motion Picture School students to the Festival. The event will be held at 7 p.m. on **Sat. April 7** at the UVic Grad Lounge. Entrance is $5.

Moving out at the end of term? Don't want to pack all your stuff with you? Drop off any items you no longer need or want at the UVic Waste Reduction and Recycling Office. Drop off: in front of the SUB on **April 28** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact the UVic Waste Reduction and Recycling Office for more info: 721-0372 or recycle@uvvm.uvic.ca

CHAI Victoria – Jewish Students Association offers a full and varied schedule of programming. Feel free to check us out or to join us at our next event. For more details, please contact us at jewish@uvic.ca or at the INFO-LINE 370-9488, ext. 2.

New service! Two Jewish chaplains are now available on campus. Gidi Nahshon, MSW, is available on Mondays and Wednesdays 5-6 pm, while Joel Fagan, MD, is available on Tuesdays 4-5 pm. Drop by to discuss what's on your mind – not just spiritual matters. For more information, please contact 721-8338.
"Ring-Out" the week with Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship every Friday night! Everyone is welcome to join us for Praise, Worship, Singing, Prayer, Fellowship and Teaching! Have a Bible? Bring it! See you Friday nights for Ring-Out in Cle C 112 at 7:30 p.m.

OFF CAMPUS

South Vancouver Island Mycological Society presents Richard Winder's discussion of the Laird hot springs mushroom foray and video by Adolf and Oluna Ceska. **April 5** at 7p.m. at the Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 Burnside Rd. West. Free parking. Non-members welcome.

Free Trade Area of the Americas – trading away democracy and equality! Join us at a family-oriented rally against the Summit of the Americas in Quebec City. Rally against transnational corporate rule and in support of health, environment, education and labour. **Sat. April 21** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Peace Arch State Park (Highway 99). For more info call 254-0703 or visit www.stopftaa.org/peacearch

The Moss Street Market is gearing up for another season of organic produce and herbs, organic baked goods, crafts and a variety of interesting creations. Drop by the first market of the year, **Sat. April 28** at 10 a.m. and see what the market has to offer this year. The market is located at Sir James Douglas School, Thurlow & Fairfield.

TUTORS

English, philosophy tutor, $15/hr. Carlos 881-8784.

English/Philosophy. Essay critique, proofreading, assignment discussion, etc. Enjoy learning but need a little assistance to fulfill your potential? I can help. Call Janet at 595-8438.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer mini-minor baseball coaching help needed. If you have a few hours a week to spare from now until the end of June, like six to eight year-old boys and girls and are interested in teaching non-competitive baseball, we need you. No experience required. Call Michelle at 381-8364.

Victoria non-profit charitable organization in need of new volunteers for various duties. For more information, please call 382-7927 and speak to Shawn.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tickets are now available for the 7th Annual Victoria YM-YWCA Women of Distinction Awards. This **May 10,** 77 nominees will be recognized in 12 categories. It's your opportunity to celebrate with a woman whose inspiration always leaves an impression on her community. Due to the popularity of the Awards Dinner, tickets are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Tickets are $95 (including $45 charitable tax receipt) and may be purchased at the reception desk of the YM-YWCA, 880 Courtney St.

Transforming Family Life with Gary Reiss, certified process trainer. Process Orientated Family Therapy offers tools for dealing with the intense flames of family life. For individuals and couples who want to work on their own families, and therapists who want to learn more about this method of working with families. **April 20, 21,** and **22.** Registration $190 before **April 6.** Contact 384-2870.

Pottery, sculpture & hand-building classes with continuous registration available. Six 2.5 hour classes, flexible, $160. Call Potter's Corner at 383-5446 for more details.

HELP WANTED

Summer camp staff needed to work at a co-ed special needs camp serving children with ADD/LD in Pennsylvania, USA. We're looking for program staff and cabin counsellors; experience with special needs children's children essential. Excellent facilities, many Canadian staff, travel allowance of $350 (US), salary of $1500 (US), working VISA/medical insurance provided, as well as accommodation. For local interviews call Bob or Kyle at 381-8682.

Editors wanted for document editing. Edit in your spare time. For more information and to apply, visit www.einscribe.net

Outdoor Ed & Summer Camp opportunities available at Camp Chief Hector in Seebe, Alberta! We are looking for enthusiastic staff to run Earth Ed. & Outdoor Pursuits programs for spring/summer. For more info email thompsonsara@hotmail.com

Quality English teaching jobs in Korea. Good salaries & free airfare and accommodation. Easily save 15K in one year. Degree required. Tel: 604-408-3760 or fax 604-408-3761. Info at www.asia-pacific-connections.com

Thinking about working for a summer camp in the US? I've got the goods... email any questions about Mah-Kee-Nac or Danbee to bcook023@hotmail.com

Travel – teach English. 5 day/40 hr **(May 16-20)** TESOL teacher cert. course (or by correspondence). 1,000s of jobs available NOW. Free info pack, toll free 1-888-270-2941.

ACCOMMODATIONS

LIVE RENT-FREE THIS SUMMER. Eliminate rent and utility costs through term housesitting. Call toll-free 1-866-FREEDIGS.

HEY YOU

Darian, we want you to be our Archie!! Luv, Betty & Ronnie.

The Sweet Rose Suite is entertaining once again! A "Goodbye school, hello summer, Happy Birthday Sho!" potluck this beautiful **April 6.**

Speaking of which, Sho, you go girl. Have a slap happy good time this Friday from all of us demons at your favourite neighbourhood commie pinko rag. You go!

Kujo, you're not as bad as your breath.

Grant, my birthday buddy: You won't be taken for **granted** this Friday/Saturday and we all sincerely hope that the good fairy **grants** all your wild birthday wishes!

Danni-jo, you miracle worker of the super stage. May you dance to a fabulous birthday song with balloons, water bottles and whipped cream.

Hey Marble Queen, may your luck get better with the teachers.

Satan: here I go, here I go, here I go again. Girls: what's my weakness!? (Men!)

Babies: they're crazy. What can you do?

Kiya, that sassy goddess of darkness, started counting backwards. Sheep, snakes, turtles & zebras.

One, 1, I, ichi, un, ein, uno, eka, unway, moja, odin...

Fantasia. It's been a while. Next time you go to Japan, take me with you, you vixen. The kids. They talk and talk and ask about you all the time and na na na. Take me away from all this. Please.

Gord, what the fuck were you thinking?

Hey. You. We appreciate it.

Gorilla, Ronnie + Bettie may want you to be their Archie, but we will always take you as the banana-loving Gorilla. You rock.

Tiger, your smile leaves me cold. The cold steel of your club leaves me wanting more. Much more. Now I must settle for the tender arms of Victor to embrace my eager soul.

Tyler Lewis, your smile and eclectically, biological pants will be missed next year. (More than marmalade).

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students & clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/3 lines
hey you!	$1/issue

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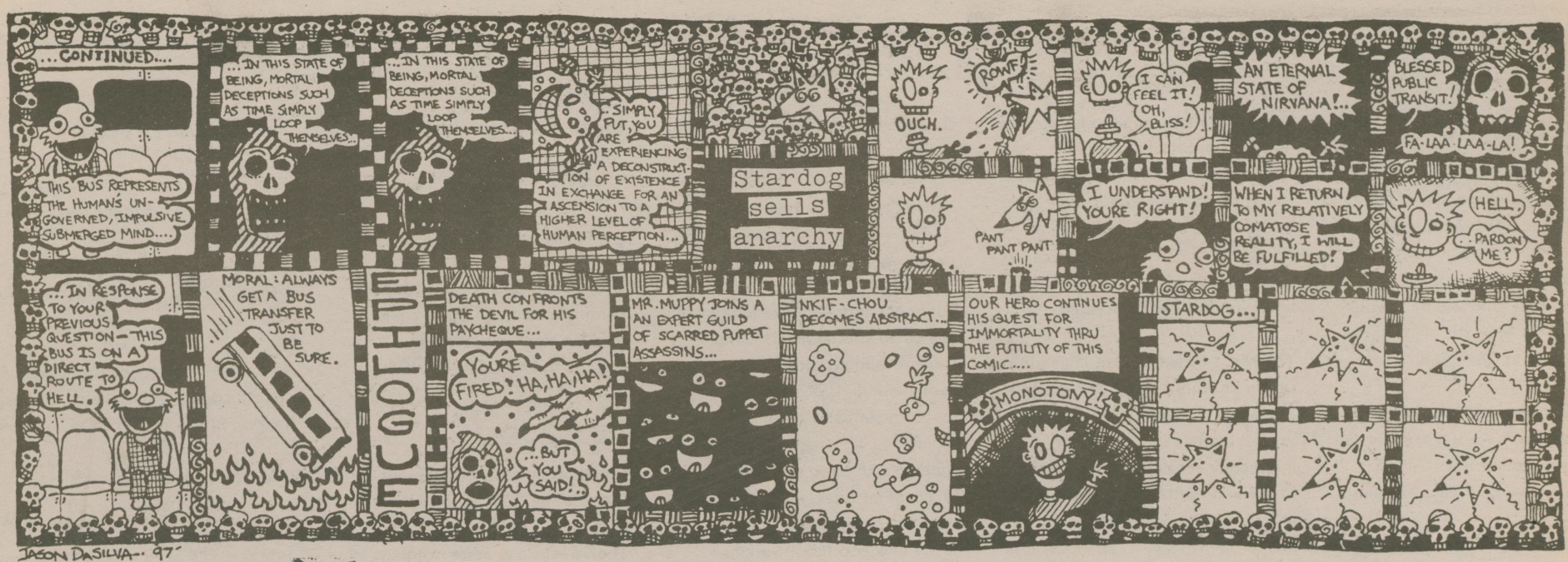
...CONTINUED...
THIS BUS REPRESENTS THE HUMAN'S UN-GOVERNED, IMPULSIVE SUBMERGED MIND....
...IN THIS STATE OF BEING, MORTAL DECEPTIONS SUCH AS TIME SIMPLY LOOP THEMSELVES...
...IN THIS STATE OF BEING, MORTAL DECEPTIONS SUCH AS TIME SIMPLY LOOP THEMSELVES...
...SIMPLY PUT, YOU ARE EXPERIENCING A DECONSTRUCTION OF EXISTENCE IN EXCHANGE FOR AN ASCENSION TO A HIGHER LEVEL OF HUMAN PERCEPTION...
Stardog sells anarchy
OUCH.
ROWF!
I CAN FEEL IT! OH, BLISS!
AN ETERNAL STATE OF NIRVANA!...
BLESSED PUBLIC TRANSIT!
FA-LAA-LAA-LA!
PANT PANT PANT
I UNDERSTAND! YOU'RE RIGHT!
WHEN I RETURN TO MY RELATIVELY COMATOSE REALITY, I WILL BE FULFILLED!
HELL
...PARDON ME?
...IN RESPONSE TO YOUR PREVIOUS QUESTION — THIS BUS IS ON A DIRECT ROUTE TO HELL.
MORAL: ALWAYS GET A BUS TRANSFER JUST TO BE SURE.
ECCLOGUE
DEATH CONFRONTS THE DEVIL FOR HIS PAYCHEQUE...
YOU'RE FIRED! HA, HA, HA!
...BUT YOU SAID!...
MR. MUPPY JOINS A AN EXPERT GUILD OF SCARRED PUPPET ASSASSINS...
NKIF-CHOU BECOMES ABSTRACT...
OUR HERO CONTINUES HIS QUEST FOR IMMORTALITY THRU THE FUTILITY OF THIS COMIC....
MONOTONY!
STARDOG...
JASON DaSILVA-- 97'

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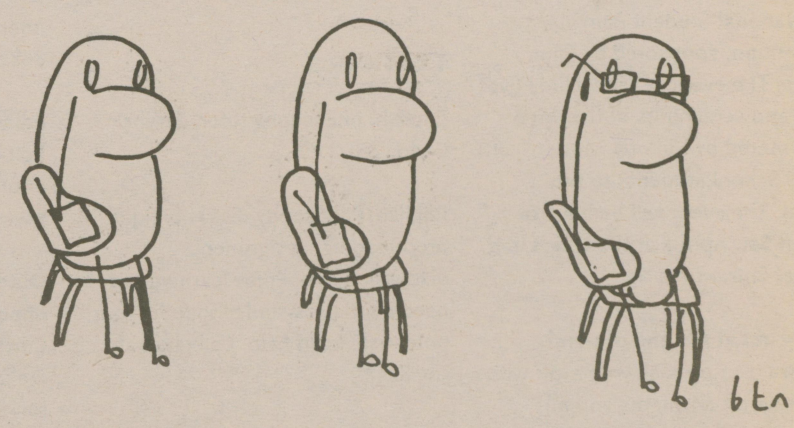

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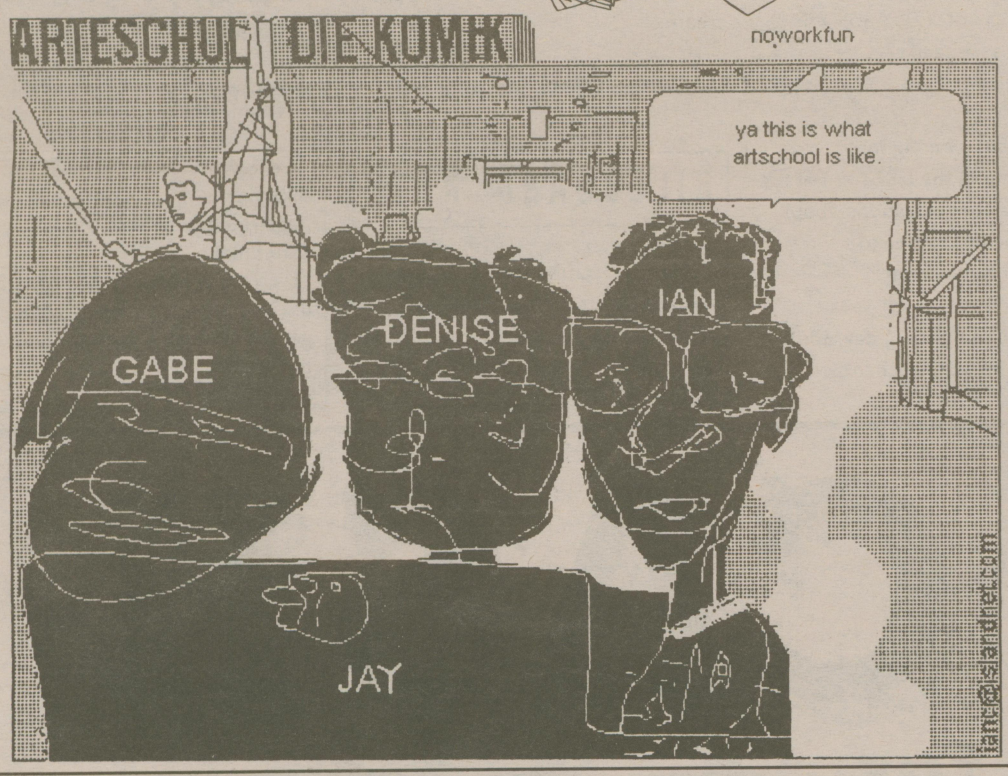
dj VanderVeen



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